

FBIS**DAILY REPORT**
CONTENTS*Eastern Europe*

Vol II No 103

26 May 1978

CSCE/MBFR/DISARMAMENT

Yugoslav, Polish Delegates Address UN Special Session	BB	1	1/A6
Djuranovic UN Speech	BB	1	1/A6
Polish Delegate's Address	BB	5	1/A10

ALBANIA

ATA Comments on Hungarian Economic Crisis	B	1	1/A12
Briefs: Permet Congress Anniversary; National Youth Meeting; Delegation to Algeria	B	1	1/A12

BULGARIA

Zhivkov Sends Birthday Greetings to Tito	C	1	1/A13
Baybakov-Led Soviet Delegation Departs 25 May	C	1	1/A13
Further Reportage on Grishin-Led Delegation Visit	C	1	1/A13
Visits Kolarov Party Committee	C	1	1/A13
Departs 25 May	C	1	1/A13
1977 Geneva Environmental Convention Ratified	C	2	1/A14
Atanasov Addresses Sociologists Congress	C	3	1/B1
Health Minister Reviews Healthcare System	C	3	1/B1
Friendship Society Meeting in Hanoi Reported	C	4	1/B2
Briefs: Scientists Received	C	4	1/B2

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Further Reportage on Husak's Activities	D	1	1/B3
Receives Envoy to Zambia	D	1	1/B3
Discusses CSSR-USSR Relations	D	1	1/B3
Brezhnev Visit Expected To Begin 30 May [DPA]	D	3	1/B5
Chnoupek Confers With Counterparts in New York	D	3	1/B5
Hruskovic Attends Cypriot Party Congress	D	4	1/B6
Party Officials Pay Homage to Dead Artist	D	4	1/B6
Driver of Hijacked Bus Dies in Hospital	D	4	1/B6
Airspace Violated, Austrian Crew Returned	D	4	1/B6
Further Commentary on 1968 'Prague Spring'	D	5	1/B7
Repressive Treatment of Dissidents Noted	D	6	1/B8
Kriegel's Exit Prevented	D	6	1/B8
[NEUE ZURCHER ZEITUNG 23 May]			
Charter 77 Signatories	D	6	1/B8
[NEUE ZURCHER ZEITUNG 20 May]			

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Honecker Sends Messages to OAU Leaders, Tito	E 1	1/89
Greetings OAU States	E 1	1/89
Birthday Message to Tito	E 1	1/89
Honecker Delivers Report to Central Committee Meeting [NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 25 May]	E 1	1/89
Hermann Promoted to Full Member of SED Politburo	E 27	1/D7
Sindermann Welcomes Austrian Assembly Delegation	E 27	1/D7
Gives Reception	E 27	1/D7
SED Greeted Cypriot Progressive Party Congress	E 28	1/D8
ADN Reports on Walde Meeting With AKEL Leader	E 28	1/D8
Mueckenberger Heads Delegation to Minsk Congress	E 28	1/D8
Conveys GDR Greetings	E 29	1/D9
FDGB-Lao Trade Union Talks Held, Accord Signed	E 29	1/D9
Leuschner Comments on Mondale Speech at UN	E 30	1/D10
Schuerer Attends Argentine Ambassador's Reception	E 30	1/D10
Bishop Theissing, Schwerin Bezirk Chairman Hold Talks	E 31	1/D11
[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 13-14 May]		

HUNGARY

Foreign Minister Puja Meets With Vance in New York	F 1	1/D12
Mondale Address to UN Disarmament Session Criticized	F 1	1/D12
Leaders Send Birthday Greetings to Tito	F 1	1/D12
SHV Official Rejects Accusations on Overseas Chinese	F 1	1/D12
Lazar Receives Indian Industries Minister	F 2	1/D13
Protocol Signed Following Talks	F 2	1/D13
Kadar, Marothy Visit WFDY Headquarters 25 May	F 3	1/D14
PDRY Defense Minister Begins Provincial Tour	F 3	1/D14
MAGYAR HIRLAP on France's Role of Gendarme in Africa	F 3	1/D14
[Palfi 21 May]		
NEPSZABADSAG Notes Lag in Planting, Fieldwork	F 5	1/E2
[17 May]		
Briefs: Livestock Increase	F 5	1/E2

ROMANIA

More on Ceausescu's Official Visit to Vietnam	H 1	1/E3
Visits Textile Works	H 1	1/E3
Attends Friendship Meeting	H 1	1/E3
Le Duan Addresses Meeting	H 1	1/E3
Ceausescu Addresses Meeting	H 2	1/E4
Official Talks End	H 5	1/E7
Cooperation Agreements Signed	H 5	1/E7
Ceausescu Begins Official Visit to Laos [cross-reference]	H 5	1/E7
Press Reviews Romanian-Lao Relations	H 6	1/E8
Press Comments on Ceausescu's Korean Visit	H 6	1/E8

YUGOSLAVIA

Further Reportage on Tito's 86th Birthday Celebration	I 1	1/E11
Hodza Congratulates Tito	I 1	1/E11
Tito Replies to Hodza	I 3	1/E13
Greetings From Relay Race	I 3	1/E13
Greetings From World Leaders	I 5	1/F1
Syrian President's Message	I 5	1/F1
TANJUG Reports on Djuranovic's Activities in New York	I 5	1/F1
Meeting With Vance	I 5	1/F1
David Rockefeller Hosts Dinner	I 6	1/F2
Briefs: Cooperation With Hungary; Ambassador to PRC	I 6	1/F2
Appointed; Congolese Message for Tito;		
Montenegrin Presidency Council Chairman;		
Ljubljana Airport Improvements		

Item 856-B-4

PrEx 7.10:FBIS-EEU-78-103

FBIS-EEU-78-103

Friday

26 May 1978

Vol II No 103

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

EASTERN EUROPE

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

74

COMPLETED
JAN 1960

This publication contains current news and commentary monitored by FBIS from foreign broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, and periodicals. Items are processed from the first or best available source; it should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign-language sources are translated by FBIS. Those from English-language sources are transcribed, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by FBIS. Labels such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how FBIS processed the information from the original. Names rendered phonetically or in transliteration are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clearly heard but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source.

Users of this publication may cite FBIS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying it as the secondary source. For example: "FBIS reports that Radio Moscow announced . . ." or "FBIS has monitored a broadcast from Hanoi which says . . ."

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

YUGOSLAVIA, POLISH DELEGATES ADDRESS UN SPECIAL SESSION

Djuranovic UN Speech

LD250912Y Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0936 GMT 24 May 78 ID

[Text] United Nations--The special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament is assessed by Yugoslavia as an exceptional opportunity for an equal dialog and agreement by all the countries to take concrete measures that would lead to a gradual, genuine and general disarmament in the world under strict international control. However, not all countries share the same responsibility to arrest the arms race and to change it in the direction of reducing long-term dangers because they do not have the same possibilities to do so. This is why important initiatives by the great military powers on the plane of consolidation of international trust and acceleration of the process of disarmament are required in the first place. In this respect the United Nations has the paramount role and responsibility in the field of disarmament and must be informed of all the negotiations and results attained with regard to disarmament or of the difficulties and the obstacles barring this way.

These assessments by Yugoslavia were set forth today by Veselin Djuranovic, president of the Federal Executive Council, in a speech opening the general debate at the special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament.

Turning to those taking part in the world disarmament session, the president of the Federal Executive Council said:

Permit me, proceeding from President Tito's message, to set forth the Yugoslav Government views on the most important aspects of the problem of disarmament which is on this session's agenda.

As the representatives of my country and of other nonaligned countries stressed on several occasions, the very fact that the UN General Assembly holds a special session on disarmament and that discussion is held on this question in which all the members of the world organization are taking part on an equal footing speaks by itself of the new approach to the problem of disarmament and of the desire of all the nations that the international community, as a whole, be involved in the quest for adequate solutions of this problem.

All the countries, as President Tito stresses in his message, have the right and duty to contribute to the efforts in the field of disarmament and to take part in disarmament negotiations on an equal footing. However, not all the countries bear the same responsibility to arrest the arms race and to change it in the direction of reducing long-term dangers because they do not have the same possibilities to do so. This is why important initiatives by the great military powers on the plane of consolidation of international trust and acceleration of the process of disarmament are required in the first place. These processes must unfold evenly and in a balanced way and through a mutually acceptable balance of obligations and the respect for them both among the nuclear powers and between them and the nonnuclear countries.

The efforts invested since World War II to come to an agreement on general and complete disarmament under strict and efficient international control and to usher in a process of disarmament have not borne fruit. A number of international agreements were concluded on partial arms control and arms prevention measures in some environments where such weapons did not exist.

However positive these initial results may be, these agreements have not influenced a reduction in the armament race to any significant extent.

In the context of relaxation of international tension talks have been going on for years between military-political groupings, that is, between the greatest powers, on various aspects of restricting and controlling armaments. However, this encouraging and positive process is imperiled precisely at this point of time as a result of the increasingly intensive armaments race and of the mistrust provoked by such a race which is acquiring global dimensions.

We hope that the negotiations within the context of SALT-II will bring about the conclusion of definite agreements and that they will signify a step further in the efforts to arrest the race in nuclear arms and its gradual elimination. We expect the great nuclear powers immediately upon the conclusion of SALT-II to go on to talks on a new agreement, possibly SALT-III, which will aim more resolutely to further restrict production and reduce stocks of nuclear weapons and of other mass destruction weapons. We believe that nuclear powers have special responsibilities and commitment on this plane before the entire international community.

No actual progress has been achieved yet at the negotiations between the NATO and Warsaw Pact members on the reciprocal reduction of the armed forces and armaments in central Europe, which have been going on for a few years in Vienna. We believe that a positive outcome of these negotiations can make a significant encouragement to the further efforts to attain an effective reduction of armed forces and armaments also in other regions of the world.

Yugoslavia has always believed that any negotiation on disarmament contributes to the solution of this problem. At the same time it warned of the danger should the negotiations be conducted to the detriment of third countries. On the other hand she stressed that such negotiations or attained results do not concern only the negotiating countries but all other states. Proceeding from the fact that in keeping with its charter the United Nations has a paramount role and responsibility in the field of disarmament we believe that they should be informed of all the negotiations and results attained on the plane of disarmament but also of the difficulties and the obstacles barring the way, in order more efficiently to fulfill this role.

Yugoslavia remains consistent in its support for the principle of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. However, on this occasion too, it notes the fragile nature of the Agreement on Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons. This is because there are still no results in implementing one of its most important stipulations referring to nuclear disarmament. Advocating prevention of the so-called horizontal proliferation, we cannot get over the fact that the vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons--the protagonists of which are the great nuclear powers--is continuing uncontrollably. The value of the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons Agreement depends in many respects on whether all its stipulations are being observed.

Heeding the stipulations of this agreement Yugoslavia rejects the attempts under the guise of preventing the spread of nuclear weapons to establish a complete monopoly of a small group of nuclear powers over the transfer and use of nuclear technology and energy for peaceful purposes.

We all must work to insure that nondiscriminatory solutions are found which will insure an unhampered transfer of nuclear technology and fuel and its use for an accelerated development of nonnuclear countries, especially the developing countries. The approach to such technology and materials must be subject to universal international control on the basis of nondiscrimination. Disarmament measures must be framed so as to insure the respect for the principle that the development of technology and science represent a general good of mankind and that it cannot be the privilege of only one country or a group of countries. Discrimination in the use of positive results of science and technology and of technological discoveries serves in effect to maintain unequal relations between individual countries. Yugoslavia believes that the broadest international cooperation is the best way to bar the way to the further spread of nuclear weapons.

However, this session would not be in keeping with the expectation of the international community and the world public opinion if it did not adopt a program of action spelling out the measures to arrest the armament race and to open up the process of genuine disarmament, as well as the long-term tasks of the United Nations on this plane which should lead to general and complete disarmament and to a strict and efficient international control.

Among (the measures) we attach the greatest priority to nuclear weapons. In this connection Yugoslavia, as indeed many other countries, believes that the following measures should be taken as a matter of urgency: to stop the armament race, particularly the nuclear one, especially the production and improvement of nuclear weapons, as a precondition to start the process of disarmament; to stop all tests of nuclear weapons and production of fissionable material for military purposes; gradually to reduce stocks of nuclear weapons and the means to move them until they are completely eliminated; to ban all other mass destruction weapons.

The commitment taken on by nuclear powers not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against the countries on whose territories they are not deployed and which have renounced it, and the adoption of other measures to consolidate mutual trust, would to a great extent contribute to the establishment of a favorable climate without which it is impossible to open up the process of disarmament.

We also attach importance to the establishment of nuclear zones in various regions of the world and to the establishment of zones of peace and cooperation in the Indian Ocean. The establishment of such zones, with the agreement of the states covered by them and with the commitment of the nuclear powers to respect such a status of these zones would surely contribute to the establishment of trust between the states and to the prevention of proliferation of nuclear weapons. Of course, we are particularly interested in and hope that the conditions will be established to make the Mediterranean a zone of peace and cooperation, which is fully in the spirit of both the fifth conference of heads of state of government of nonaligned countries in Colombo and of the final act of the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Helsinki. We shall support the creation of the zones of peace and cooperation also in other regions of the world.

Attaching paramount importance to the future of nuclear weapons Yugoslavia, of course, believes that conventional weapons also give rise to great and justified concern. Both because their stockpiles and arsenals have increased enormously and because these weapons have been perfected to such an extent in terms of their destructive power and accuracy that many among them, in terms of the effect of their impact, have in fact some close to mass destruction weapons.

Bearing in mind that fact that numerous local war and military interventions since World War II have been conducted exclusively with conventional weapons, we consider that increased attention must be paid to the adoption of concrete measures in connection with these weapons. Consequently, Yugoslavia advocates the banning of the development, production and deployment of new types of conventional weapons and new systems of such weapons.

The negotiations on the limiting and gradual reduction of the armed forces and conventional weapons should be held together with the negotiations on nuclear disarmament measures. Naturally, these negotiations should be held wherever the favorable conditions exist for doing so on a multilateral, regional or bilateral basis with the aim of strengthening peace and security at a lower level of forces. These negotiations are of a decisive significance for Europe which is the area of the greatest concentration of weapons and armed forces in the world today.

We also consider that in the present-day conditions it is not possible to implement efficient disarmament measures without the appropriate control measures. However, we have never shared the view that control should be given priority over disarmament measures. If there is political will to conclude any definite agreements, it is also possible to insure adequate measures for the control of disarmament.

Yugoslavia has always considered that the holding of a world disarmament conference could also contribute to the creation of the conditions needed for more successful negotiations on unsolved questions, especially those that have for quite a long time now been blocked by the absence of will and readiness on the part of certain countries. The initiative for holding such a conference, the same as the initiative for holding the UN General Assembly special session, which is taking place only now, was given by nonaligned countries as far back as their first summit in Belgrade in 1961. However, it is our view that before holding such a conference it is necessary to make the appropriate preparation and insure the participation in its work of all states, particularly all the nuclear powers.

Yugoslavia considers that we should reiterate on this occasion that the General Assembly is the main political organ for the adoption of UN decisions in the field of disarmament. With the aim of strengthening the role of the United Nations in this field and in general we think that it is necessary to revive the work of the UN Disarmament Commission as soon as possible, with the provision that this session should define the character and contents of its work. Likewise, it is necessary to establish a better organic link between the United Nations as a whole and the conference of the Disarmament Committee and to reexamine the existing composition and organization of the conference of the Disarmament Committee to adapt it to the changed conditions in the world and to the states' increased interest in active participation in the consideration of disarmament problems. During the consideration of the negotiating mechanism it is of particular importance to create the conditions for the participation in negotiations of all the military nuclear powers and other militarily significant countries on an equal footing, as well as (?create the conditions) for the better representation of nuclear countries.

The strengthening of the UN's role in the field of disarmament should also be insured through the General Assembly's supervision of the implementation of the programs of actions and measures adopted and we consider that to this end it would be beneficial to hold new special sessions of the General Assembly on the problems of disarmament at definite intervals.

This would insure continuity in the work in the field of disarmament and the UN General Assembly would thus be able to perform the role assigned to it in the charter.

Allow me to conclude by stressing once more that the success of this session, as well as the success of the further steps in the field of disarmament, depends on the readiness of all the UN member countries--especially on the readiness of the great powers--to exert joint efforts aimed at halting the arms race and starting the process of real disarmament. As an independent, socialist and nonaligned country, Yugoslavia has always worked and will continue to work for the settling of disarmament problems and the creation of a world in which all the peoples--freed from the horrors of war--will live in peace and prosperity, which will enable them to use their skills and material resources for the building of a better and more just world. As President Tito said as far back as the 15th session of the UN General Assembly, "disarmament, if viewed from a sufficiently broad point of view, means a distinctive form of making a positive change in the world and the relations in it."

Consequently, we consider that today there is a convergence of all the necessary conditions which testify to the growing interest of the international community, the world public opinion and all the progressive and peaceful forces in the settling of mankind's vital problem, the problem of disarmament, and in the changing of the existing international relations. At the same time, the awareness has increased that in the conditions of a constantly accelerating and frenzied arms race there can be no development not only for developing countries, but also for the industrially developed ones. Owing to this this session provides a special opportunity for joint action to enable us to approach disarmament jointly as a task the responsibility for the carrying out of which is borne by all states, big and small. It goes without saying that this special session of the UN General Assembly cannot find an answer to every disarmament question. Nevertheless, I am convinced that by means of a frank and open dialog--in which all UN member countries will take part, deeply aware that any delay in the adoption of measures aimed at genuine disarmament is increasing the danger of a new world war cataclysm--we shall be able to adopt the kind of course and decisions which will open up fresh prospects for a more secure future of mankind. This is our great debt to the present and future generations; united we can achieve everything.

Esteemed Mr President, allow me to conclude by expressing my delegation's particular satisfaction at the trust shown by the General Assembly in you in electing you to preside over this special session which is devoted to the problems of disarmament. This election constitutes a special tribute to socialist and nonaligned Yugoslavia, and you personally, as its outstanding diplomatic representative.

Polish Delegation's Address

ID252346Y Warsaw PAP in English 2118 GMT 25 May 78 ID

[Text] New York, 25 May, PAP--The Polish delegation, said Minister Emil Wojtaszek, has come for the session with firm determination to undertake together with other delegations decisive efforts aimed at attributing a high rank and a new impulse to today's key problem of the cessation of the arms race and the achievement of progress on the road towards universal and complete disarmament.

Our desire expresses the Polish people's will and represents its vital interests.

Poland and the other socialist countries presented their views on topical basic problems of disarmament in a draft declaration on disarmament on September 7th, 1977, and in a draft programme of activities in the field of disarmament presented on the same day, as well as in an overall disarmament programme which was submitted to the general disarmament committee on February 21st, 1978. Comprehensive disarmament proposals which were presented by Leonid Brezhnev on April 25th 1978 are of great importance and Poland fully supports them.

In Europe, detente has brought about a turn from the cold war to the construction of a new structure of inter-state relations due to joint efforts of all states.

Having pointed to the significance of the Helsinki final act and the Belgrade meeting, the speaker said that the Soviet-U.S. dialogue which Poland fully supports, is of essential importance for the process of detente in Europe and the world.

But a number of negative or even dangerous phenomena occur, namely, growing influence of military and industrial circles in some countries and the propagation by some Western circles of a doctrine that only the intensification of armaments means greater security.

Next, the speaker referred to Poland's participation in the Vienna negotiations and in the work of the Geneva disarmament committee where the Warsaw Treaty member states put forth a draft convention banning the production, development, deployment and use of the neutron bomb.

We have noted the U.S. decision on the postponement of the question of the neutron bomb production. Yet we think that this decision should be followed by the one on a complete renunciation of the neutron bomb production.

Moreover, the socialist countries presented a long-term programme of disarmament at the forum of the Geneva committee in February 1978.

It is our opinion that a document which will be adopted by the session should be realistic and represent a form acceptable to the majority of states guided by deep moral dictates and the imperative of the epoch. Poland demands the cessation of the arms race and the introduction of real disarmament.

ATA COMMENTS ON HUNGARIAN ECONOMIC CRISIS

LD251500Y Tirana ATA in English 0950 GMT 25 May 78 LD.....

[Text] Tirana, May 25 (ATA)--In the conditions of the deepening of the economic crisis which has Hungary in its grip, the revisionist clique of Budapest is asking the Western capital for new credits. In an interview given to the Hungarian revisionist press, the vice-president of the National Bank of Hungary, Fakete, underlines that his country is trying to ensure as large credits as possible from the Western countries. The official of Budapest was compelled to admit the fact that the new credits stem from the fall in economic production of the country and the increase of imports. He called on the broad Hungarian working masses to further tighten the belt to ensure the "gradual harmony" between consumption and production. This means that, in the conditions of the further fall in production, the Hungarian working people "voluntarily" reduce consumption, carrying on their shoulders a still heavier burden of the crisis.

Despite the credits taken from the West every years, the Hungarian economy has registered a further fall in production. Through credits, the foreign capital has been introduced in various branches of the economy of this country and ensures ever greater profits. During the 1975-1977 period alone, Hungary together with the Soviet Union and the other East European revisionist countries, has received from the West credits which are over 30 billion dollars. These credits are accompanied by a series of conditions and a high percentage of interest.

BRIEFS

PERMET CONGRESS ANNIVERSARY--A meeting was organized in Permet on 24 May to mark the 34th anniversary of the first antifascist national liberation congress. The place was decorated with the portraits of the classics of Marxism-Leninism and portraits of Comrade Enver Hoxha and other party-state leaders. Attending were workers, students and servicemen. Also present were Quemal Bregasi, first secretary of the Permet District Party Committee, other district party-state leaders, patriots, veterans and others. Duro Kopo, chairman of the Executive Committee of the District People's Council, chaired the meeting. Fiqrete Shehu, member of the party Central Committee, expressed greeting to the gathering on behalf of the party Central Committee, the Council of Ministers and the General Council of the Albanian Democratic Front. [Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 24 May 78 AU]

NATIONAL YOUTH MEETING--The Central Committee of the Union of Working Youth of Albania recently organized a national meeting in Leskovic. It was attended by distinguished youths who work and live in the beautiful socialist villages and also by youths who have expressed their wish to permanently live in the countryside. Also attending were the secretaries of the country's district youth committees and Elmaz Puto, first secretary of the Kolonje District Party Committee; Fuat Gega, chairman of the Executive Committee of the District People's Council and others. Mina Ruco, first secretary of the Kolonje District Youth Committee, reported on the performance of youth organizations of Kolonje District in the effort to intensify the movement which calls on the youths to work and live in the countryside. Lumtur Rexha, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Union of Working Youth, also spoke at the meeting. [Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 2000 GMT 23 May 78 AU]

DELEGATION TO ALGERIA--A delegation of the Committee of Albanian War Veterans has left for Algeria to attend the Fifth Congress of Algerian Freedom Fighter. [Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 22 May 78 AU]

ZHIVKOV SENDS BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO TITO

AU252151Y Sofia BTA in English 1933 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] Sofia, May 25 (BTA)--The first secretary of the Central Committee of the BCP and State Council president, Mr Todor Zhivkov, has sent a telegram to the president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and chairman of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, Josip Broz Tito, with most cordial greetings on the occasion of his birthday.

Wishes have been extended for good health and success in the highly responsible work for the good of the peoples of Yugoslavia. The conviction is expressed that cooperation between the two neighbouring socialist countries will develop in the interests of the two peoples, for socialism and peace.

BAYBAKOV-LED SOVIET DELEGATION DEPARTS 25 MAY

AU251536Y Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1030 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] The Soviet Government delegation led by Nikolay Baybakov, deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee, left Bulgaria today.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON GRISHIN-LED DELEGATION VISIT

Visits Kolarov Party Committee

AU251538Y Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1030 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] This morning the official Soviet delegation led by Viktor Grishin, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, which is visiting Bulgaria on the occasion of the days devoted to Moscow in Sofia, visited the Kolarov Regional Party Committee in Sofia and met with members of this committee. The delegation was accompanied by Georgi Yordanov, BCP Central Committee Secretariat member and first secretary of the Sofia City Party Committee. Lyudmil Grekov, first secretary of the Kolarov Regional Party Committee, acquainted the guests with the work of the regional party organization connected with the tasks assigned to it by the 11th BCP Congress and by the national party conference.

Departs 25 May

AU252145Y Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Excerpt] At Sofia airport the Soviet delegation led by Comrade Viktor Grishin will soon board the plane which will bring him to his motherland. Present are Comrades Ognyan Doynov, Nacho Papazov, Petur Mezhdurechki, chairman of the Sofia City People's Council Executive Committee; Vladimir Bazovski, Soviet ambassador to Bulgaria; and Col Gen Khachik Ambaryan, representative of the commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces attached to the Bulgarian People's Army.

1977 GENEVA ENVIRONMENTAL CONVENTION RATIFIED

AU251759Y Sofia BTA in English 1442 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] Sofia, May 25 (BTA)--Bulgaria ratified today the convention on prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques signed by her in Geneva on May 18, 1977.

Mr Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council of Bulgaria, signed on behalf of the State Council a decree and a document on ratification of the convention.

He underlined that its signing is a new concrete step aimed at the limitation of the imperialist-imposed arms race. "This race which for many years has been poisoning the international life, threatens the world permanently with a thermo-nuclear catastrophe and swallows colossal means and human efforts of the top-qualified brains and labour of the nations", said Mr Zhivkov.

Mr Todor Zhivkov pointed out that the convention closes the doors on proliferation of the armaments race in the sphere of the so-called "meteorological" or "geophysical warfare". "The successful agreement in such a complex sphere confirms the thesis that it is much easier to act beforehand, previous of these weapons entering the war arsenal of the states. This fact points out the correct way for settling other issues connected with the development of new mass extermination weapons and first of all pertaining to mutual prohibition of the barbarous neutron weapons", underlined the Bulgarian head of state.

According to Mr Zhivkov the new convention proves that where there is goodwill agreement could be achieved on the most complex and delicate issues from the sphere of disarmament. "And such positive result is possible only by strict observance of the principles of disarmament and especially of the major principle of non-violation of the interests of any participating country in the negotiations, i.e. when none of the participating sides strives for unilateral advantages", added Mr Zhivkov.

He also noted that the ratification of the convention is a concrete and eloquent proof of the principled and peaceful foreign policy of the BCP and the Bulgarian Government.

The Bulgarian party and state leader stressed that at the 10th special session of the UN General Assembly, Bulgaria, in close cooperation and interaction with the fraternal socialist countries and, first of all, with the CSSR, comes out with concrete and realistic proposals on all basic problems of curbing the arms race and for real disarmament.

Before the signing ceremony Mr Petur Mladenov, member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP and minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, proposed on behalf of the Ministerial Council to ratify the document.

Mr Petur Tanchev, chairman of the Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs with the National Assembly, secretary of the Bulgarian Agrarian Union and first vice-president of the State Council, on behalf of the committee supported the proposal of the Ministerial Council.

II. 26 May 78

C 3

BULGARIA

ATANASOV ADDRESSES SOCIOLOGISTS CONGRESS

AU251900Y Sofia BTA in English 1450 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] Sofia, May 25 (BTA)--The Third Congress of the Bulgarian Sociological Association opened here today. The congress will last two days and will be attended by more than 300 delegates from Bulgaria. Sociologists from the GDR, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, Hungary and Czechoslovakia have also arrived to attend the congress. Dr Ulf Himmelstrandt, vice president of the International Sociological Association, too, is here for the congress.

Mr Georgi Atanasov, secretary of the BCP CC, read a message of greetings on behalf of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party. "This congress of yours comes to reveal once again the immense importance the party attaches to the front of scientific workers, to social sciences and sociology," reads part of the greetings. Further on the message of greetings stressed on the significance the Bulgarian sociologists' international initiatives have and on their cooperation with sociologists from the socialist countries.

It was finally emphasized in the greetings that the CC of the BCP was confident that the congress would discuss comprehensively and would specify the creative tasks facing sociology, that its work would be one more step forward for sociological thought and its influence on social practice and modern scientific cognition.

In the basic report "Sociological Cognition and Socialist Practice", Prof Zhivko Oshavkov, chairman of the Bulgarian Sociological Association, referred to sociology's specific function in improving the socialist organization of labour and the planned management of the economy as the basic item in the work of the congress.

Prof Oshavkov said that the third congress of the Bulgarian sociologists should discuss the working out of an overall programme for systematic researches into the real aspect of sociologists' structure. The speaker dwelt also at length to the key social function of Marxist-Leninist sociology, namely the servicing of the scientific guidance of society.

Among the major studies of the Bulgarian sociologists since their second congress are: "Modern Bulgarian Society's Sociological Structure", (Prof Zhivkov Oshavkov), "Sociology and Science" (Prof Niko Yakhiel), and the collectively written "Nature Socialism--Problems and Prospects" and "Scientific Activity's Sociological Problems".

The basic tasks of [the] Bulgarian sociologists' future work, as defined in the report of the sociological association, are the discussion and working out of sociology's key scientific problems and the active and effective cooperation with sociologists from the countries of the socialist community.

HEALTH MINISTER REVIEWS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

AU251901Y Sofia BTA in English 1458 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] Sofia, May 25 (BTA)--At today's national conference of healthcare activists, Academician Radoy Popivanov, minister of public health, spoke about the tasks facing the healthcare cadres in the country against the background of the decisions made by the national BCP conference.

II. 26 May 78

C 4

BULGARIA

First among these tasks are the improvement of the planned management of the healthcare, of the quality of medical service and especially of those groups of the population who play an important role in developing the labour and economic potential of the country, and also combating the highest-incidence diseases--cardio-vascular, nervous and psychological and virus ailments, cancer and injuries. As the minister pointed out, the conditions for these tasks to be successfully tackled are at hand. At present Bulgaria has at her disposal a highly developed healthcare system in both material and cadre respects.

In the physician-patients ratio (1:455) Bulgaria ranks second in the world, next only to the Soviet Union. There are 38 hospital and 23 sanatorium beds per 100,000 people. The average capacity of county hospitals is about 350 beds and of the area ones--about 242 beds. Last year alone the construction of medical establishments amounted to 105 million leva.

The difference in the medical aid in the country and in the towns have almost been ironed out. Many villages have already polyclinics of their own.

Academician Radoy Popivanov spoke about the satisfactory demographic indices of the Bulgarian nation. In the past thirty years the average life expectancy went up from 52 to 71.4 years. Infant mortality rate in all the other age groups, too, is steadily decreasing as is the temporary and permanent labour disability. The birth rate is growing steadier.

In the last few years the incidence of virus disease dropped down by 30 per cent, and that of respiratory infectious diseases--by 50 per cent.

So the minister pointed out, prophylaxis will remain to be the main trend in the work of healthcare cadres. He also spoke about the immense significance of mass prophylactic check-ups, which annually cover several million people.

FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY MEETING IN HANOI REPORTED

AU260831Y Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0530 GMT 26 May 76 AU

[Text] The Vietnamese Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With the Peoples of All Countries organized a festive meeting in Hanoi on the occasion of the first anniversary of the creation of a Bulgarian-Vietnamese society of friendship and cooperation.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the Hanoi public, the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and by many friends of Bulgaria.

Speeches were delivered by Hoang Minh Giam, chairman of the Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With the Peoples of All Countries, and Stoyan Konstantinov, Bulgarian ambassador to Vietnam.

BRIEFS

SCIENTISTS RECEIVED--Today Prof Eric Burhop, Prof Muherdji and Academician Theodorescu were received by Mr Nacho Papazov, chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technological Progress. Topical problems concerning the development of science and the use of its achievements for peace progress were discussed in a cordial spirit. [Text] [Sofia BTA in English 1919 GMT 19 May 78 AU]

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON HUSAK'S ACTIVITIES

Receives Envoy to Zambia

LD251540Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1430 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the republic, today received in Prague Vaclav Maly, the newly appointed Czechoslovak ambassador to Zambia, in connection with the start of his diplomatic mission.

Discusses CSSR-USSR Relations

LD252302Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Before the forthcoming official, friendly visit of the Soviet party and government delegation, headed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, to Czechoslovakia, Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and president of the republic, has granted an interview to Igor Biryukov, permanent correspondent of PRAVDA in Czechoslovakia, and Nikolay Agayants, departmental head of Soviet television and radio in Czechoslovakia. The first question was put by Comrade Biryukov: [begin recording]

[Question--in Russian fading into Czech translation] In connection with the official friendly visit to Czechoslovakia of the Soviet party and government delegation headed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, PRAVDA readers and Soviet television viewers would like to know how you assess the stage in relations achieved so far between our parties and states.

[Answer] All our working people are looking forward to the visit of the official party and government delegation of the USSR, headed by Comrade Brezhnev. We all consider it to be an important event. Relations between our communist parties and between our socialist states and peoples have developed into very deep relations in all respects. One can say that there is practically no sphere in which close cooperation and a close exchange of experience, and thus all-round contacts, are not possible between our two communist parties, the CPSU and CPCZ, there are already traditionally good, intensive, friendly and comradely contacts, based on the common principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian and socialist internationalism. Over many years, these have developed into relations of high standards. Our states, too, have very intensive relations and I would say that the quality of these is always growing.

In the economic sphere, we can say that the USSR is our biggest economic partner. We are progressing from the common exchange of goods to a higher stage of cooperation--to integration processes, joint utilization of the scientific-technological development, and to joint planning of economic matters in such a fashion as to achieve ever higher standards.

Similarly, in the sphere of art, science and so on, contacts are much closer. Just one illustration: recently a Czechoslovak citizen took part in the exploration of space--our scientists also cooperate in this sphere. This, too, shows the development of our cooperation.

There is cooperation between social organizations, between trade unions, between young people, women and so on. After all, there is a very intensive development of pairing relations between regions, districts, cities and enterprises so that in this area, people are exchanging their experiences. They are making our activity richer, so to speak.

Naturally, there is coordination of foreign policy; a joint approach of the socialist countries in the struggle for peace, as well as in other spheres.

If I am to answer your question briefly, I would say that between our parties and states there is mutual cooperation of a high degree, which is being deepened and increased all the time, and we can say without exaggeration that this cooperation is now better than ever. Therefore, our people welcomed with much joy the news of the visit of the Soviet party and government delegation, the visit to our country to be paid by Comrade Brezhnev, who is a friend of our people, our country and our party, and--as I've said already--this will be a great event for us. [end recording]

You are listening to Comrade Gustav Husak's answers to questions put to him by Soviet journalists. The second question was asked by Nikolay Agayants. [begin recording]

[Question--in Russian fading into Czech translation] What contribution to cooperation between the CPCZ and the CPSU, between Czechoslovakia and the USSR and to the further strengthening of the socialist community can be expected from the forthcoming visit of the Soviet party and state delegation in Czechoslovakia and from Czechoslovak-Soviet talks at summit level?

[Answer] Meetings like this one have many facets. Above all, there is always an exchange of information and experience and this is extremely valuable for both sides. Mutual relations will be assessed: what good has been achieved, where it is necessary to try harder, so to speak, so that things will be better managed.

These meetings provide new incentives, new stimuli for the development of cooperation in concrete individual spheres. I can state, for example, that in our country, in the Soviet Union and in other socialist countries, work is starting on the economic-social plan for the period after 1980. Work is starting on final programs in various fields so that questions relating to the near future and questions relating to long-term development will come to the forefront and will produce suggestions and stimuli. Then they will be elaborated. So I am deeply convinced that this meeting with Comrade Brezhnev and with the USSR delegation will produce many suggestions and stimuli for the further development and deepening of cooperation between our parties and our peoples.

I would like to say that it will also be a demonstration of the already traditional Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship, a demonstration of the feelings of the Czechoslovak people for the Soviet party and Soviet communists, which has its deep roots in the prewar period and which, naturally, is connected with our liberation and with all the aid and cooperation of the postwar period. Our people realize what the cooperation with the Soviet Union on the question of the sovereignty of our states, and on the question of securing a peaceful life and better conditions for everything we do for today and the entire future means to us. Therefore, I am convinced that this visit will be a demonstration of this, a demonstration of the deep friendship between Czechoslovak communists and Czechoslovak people with the Soviet Union, a demonstration of our firm determination to deepen this bond, cherish it, safeguard it and raise it to even higher and better levels.

Since I have this opportunity, allow me to express my admiration for the successes achieved by the Soviet people in the implementation of the conclusions of the 25th Congress of the CPSU. We follow these successes in all spheres with great joy and we are pleased with the political, economic and cultural development of the USSR, which has made it the pillar of not only our cooperation, but, above all, of a peaceful life on this earth and therefore, for us, the guarantee of our freedom. I would like to congratulate Soviet communists and nonparty members on these great successes achieved in their work. I wish them even better results in their work and I wish them good health and much happiness in their future work. [end recording]

BREZHNEV VISIT EXPECTED TO BEGIN 30 MAY

LD251654Y Hamburg DPA in German 1818 GMT 24 May 78 LD

[Text] Prague--The Soviet head of state and party, Leonid Brezhnev, is expected in Prague for a 4-day state visit to Czechoslovakia next Tuesday. It was learned in Prague on Wednesday evening that Brezhnev has been invited by the Czechoslovak party and state leader. Brezhnev last visited Prague in 1973. His forthcoming visit, which will also take him to Slovakia, gains in importance by the forthcoming 10th anniversary of the Warsaw Pact intervention on the occasion of the Prague Spring.

A summit meeting of the East bloc party chiefs which had originally been planned within the framework of the Brezhnev visit has apparently been canceled. Unofficially it was stated that it was to be held after the special UN session on disarmament at the end of June.

CHNOUPEK CONFERS WITH COUNTERPARTS IN NEW YORK

LD251010Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0600 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Bohuslav Chnoupek, Czechoslovak minister of foreign affairs, who heads the Czechoslovak delegation at the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament, held talks in New York yesterday with Nikolaos Rolandhis, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Cyprus. They exchanged views on possibilities for further deepening mutual relations between the two countries, and briefed each other on the stands of their governments on important international issues. Nikolaos Rolandhis expressed deep appreciation of the systematic and consistent support rendered by Czechoslovakia to the Cypriot people.

Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek also met yesterday with Cyrus Vance, U.S. secretary of state, with whom he exchanged views on a number of questions pertaining to relations between the two countries. They briefed each other on the stands of their governments at the UN General Assembly's current special session on disarmament.

Minister Chnoupek also met yesterday with Veselin Djuranovic, president of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia; Josip Vrhovec, federal secretary for foreign affairs of Yugoslavia; Einar Agustsson, minister of foreign affairs of Iceland.

HRUSKOVIC ATTENDS CYPRIOT PARTY CONGRESS

LD251516Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1200 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] The 14th congress of the party of Cypriot communists, the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus, opened in Nicosia today. The CPCZ is represented by a delegation led by Miloslav Hruskovic, candidate member of the Presidium of the party's Central Committee, and secretary of the CPSL Central Committee.

PARTY OFFICIALS PAY HOMAGE TO DEAD ARTIST

LD251504Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1300 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Summary] Today in the Dvorak Hall of the House of Artists in Prague, citizens of the capital paid their last respects to national artist Vaclav Dobias, who died on 18 May. Among the masses of flowers and wreaths there were floral tributes by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the republic, the Federal Government and the Federal Assembly. "The solemn ceremony was attended, together with the family and friends of the deceased, by members of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee--Lubomir Strougal, federal premier; Josef Korcak, premier of the Czech Government; Peter Colotka, premier of the Slovak Government; Josef Havlin, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; and other representatives of our political, public and cultural life. On behalf of the CPCZ Central Committee and the Federal Government, Milan Klusak, Czech minister of culture, paid the last tribute to Vaclav Dobias."

DRIVER OF HIJACKED BUS DIES IN HOSPITAL

LD251833Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] The district hospital in Cheb has announced that Jan Novak, the bus driver who was seriously injured at the Pomezí border crossing during the terrorist attempt by three adventurers to forcibly cross to the FRG, has succumbed to the consequences of his grave injury.

AIRSPACE VIOLATED, AUSTRIAN CREW RETURNED

LD252018Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] Czechoslovak airspace in the vicinity of (?Ceske Velenice) was penetrated on 23 May 1978 shortly before 1000. A Bell AB204 air force helicopter with the identification letters (?4DBP) violated Czechoslovak sovereign territory. The helicopter's penetration was spotted by members of the Border Guard and the Czechoslovak People's Army who, working in cooperation, forced the helicopter to land on Czechoslovak territory.

After certifying their identities, Czechoslovak authorities handed the helicopter's crew over to the Austrian authorities on 24 May. The helicopter, which is still in Czechoslovak territory, will also be handed over to the Austrian authorities.

In connection with this event, the Austrian authorities apologized to the Czechoslovak Embassy in Vienna.

The Austrian ambassador in Prague expressed his regret to the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Austrian authorities at the same time promised to take the necessary measures to prevent a repetition.

FURTHER COMMENTARY ON 1968 'PRAGUE SPRING'

LD252017Y Prague in English to Africa and Asia 1730 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Not even after 10 years can some people in the West reconcile themselves to the defeat of counterrevolution in Czechoslovakia. New books and articles are published in many Western countries whose authors shed crocodile tears over the internationalist assistance of the Warsaw Treaty countries to Czechoslovakia in 1968.

This anticommunist campaign is also taken advantage of by Czechoslovak post-August Political emigres who betray their homeland, [word indistinct] their nation and earn a living on money provided to them by overt enemies of socialism, progress and peace. There are also articles in the Western press written by political freaks who describe the internationalist assistance to Czechoslovakia as political occupation of our country and an axe blow, et cetera. They even claim that these events had an unfavorable impact on the international communist and workers movement and on the development of the international situation.

Let's compare, however, the real situation in Czechoslovakia 10 years ago with what it is today. Undoubtedly, Czechoslovakia in 1968 was struck by a severe crisis, aggravated by the crisis within the Communist Party. Counterrevolutionary forces in Czechoslovakia were gaining ground. Dubcek's supporters in the Communist Party leadership did not counter these forces; on the contrary, they made concessions to them. Consequently, the 1968 events in Czechoslovakia, described by many as the Prague Spring, were in fact a spring-time for Czechoslovakia and foreign reaction getting ready for the burial of socialism in our country. The situation was then heading toward an open action of the counterrevolutionary forces which in the end would not have saved even the rightwing renegades in the party.

The internationalist assistance provided by the Warsaw Treaty member countries to Czechoslovakia prevented, however, counterrevolutionary subversion in our country, and at the same time prevented an unimaginable tragedy, unimaginable bloodshed in a civil war threatening the country. And it would have been a cruel war, since counterrevolution, as is known from history, is especially brutal and unscrupulous--something which can easily be documented by the developments in Chile after the overthrow of the Popular Unity government.

The failure of Czechoslovak and international counterrevolutionary attempts to sever Czechoslovakia from the socialist community did not weaken the positions of socialism in Europe. On the contrary, it strengthened them further. The international communist and workers movement have drawn valuable lessons from the defeat of counterrevolution, among them the knowledge that only consistent adherence to the principles of Marx-Leninism forms an effective bulwark against the imperialist efforts to infiltrate into the communist parties opportunist and petit bourgeois ideas and opinions, which is implemented open the way to counterrevolution.

Many of the representatives of the so-called Prague Spring have later been provided prestige by avowed anticommunist enemies of Czechoslovakia. For instance, Jir Pelikan, former director of Czechoslovak television, was welcomed in West Germany and the United States. Jezdinsky and Slava Volny, who advertised the so-called process of revival in Czechoslovak radio, went straight to Radio Free Europe, the American-financed radio station in Munich involved in espionage. Ludek Pachman, former chess player who wanted to become a politician, is nowadays shaking hands with West German revanchists and proudly proclaims his membership in the rightwing oriented Christian Democratic Party, CDU, etcetera.

The contention that the internationalist assistance provided to Czechoslovakia by the Warsaw Treaty alliance in 1968 has complicated the international situation cannot hold out either. On the contrary, it preserved the stability and balance in Europe, and thus the possibility of the basic positive turn from the cold war policy to the policy of relaxation which took place in the early seventies. The internationalist assistance rendered to Czechoslovakia in 1968 salvaged and strengthened socialism in our country and at the same time consolidated the positions of socialism and progress in the world at large and preserved peace in Europe.

REPRESSIVE TREATMENT OF DISSIDENTS NOTED

Kriegel's Exit Prevented

Zurich NEUE ZURCHER ZEITUNG in German 23 May 78 p 2 WA

[Text] The Spanish Communist Party organized a dinner in order to honor Frantisek Kriegel, a former member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the CPCZ in the Dubcek era, last Saturday. The honored guest, whose name has recently appeared because of his criticism of the lengthy presence of Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia, was not able to arrive in Madrid. Czechoslovak authorities prohibited his exit. His chair was left empty during the dinner. The taped voice of the absent guest--who as military physician took part in the Spanish Civil War supporting the Republicans--was heard. Kriegel, speaking fluent Spanish, characterized as absurd the attitude of the Prague Government, which did not even permit him a short trip to revisit his old civil war friends. He did not waste time in order to blame socialism in Czechoslovakia for its manipulation of men and disregard for their agreement. "We want socialism in freedom", declared Kriegel on the tape, "to which people can belong with all their rights." Manuel Azcarate, a member of the Spanish party leadership in charge of foreign relations, stressed on his part that the Spanish party is in agreement with Kriegel's demands.

Charter 77 Signatories

Zurich NEUE ZURCHER ZEITUNG in German 20 May 78 p 3 WA

[Text] According to news arriving in Vienna, Czechoslovakia has reinforced surveillance of prominent signatories of Charter 77. The telephones of a whole number of signatories have been put out of order. It seems that Hejdanek, a spokesman for the Charter, is confined to his home in Prague. Similarly, a Czechoslovak citizen who wanted to visit him is said to have been intercepted by the police, blindfolded and taken to a forest where he was freed in the night. Party chief Husak denied repressive measures against the Charter signatories during his recent visit to Bonn.

HONECKER SENDS MESSAGES TO OAU LEADERS, TITO

Greets OAU States

LD251156Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0300 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text:] Berlin--Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has conveyed congratulations to the heads of state of OAU countries on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the OAU and the "Day of African Unity." The telegrams stress that these states have achieved historic successes in the struggle for peace, independence and social progress.

Honecker stressed that the growing attempts by imperialist circles to interfere in the internal affairs of independent African states, to prevent free choice of the course of development and to put neocolonialist regimes in power in the southern part of the continent, necessitated the strengthening of African unity on an anti-imperialist basis. At the same time, Honecker gave his assurance that the GDR would always be a true friend and reliable ally to the African states and peoples in creating a new society based on the dignity of man.

Birthday Message to Tito

LD251150Y East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 25 May 78 pp 3-6 LD/AU

[Text:] Berlin--Erich Honecker, secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has congratulated the Yugoslav president, Josip Broz Tito, chairman of the LCY, on his 86th birthday. In the telegram, Honecker praised Tito's great services in the struggle against imperialism, the war and fascist occupation as well as in the socialist development of his country. At the same time, Tito's untiring work for the consolidation of world peace and his personal contribution to the development of friendly cooperation between the two parties and states was stressed.

HONECKER DELIVERS REPORT TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

LD242200Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1500 GMT 24 May 78 LD

["From the Politburo Report to the Eighth SED Central Committee Meeting; the Report Was Given by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee"--ADN headline]

[Text:] Berlin--Since the last Central Committee meeting, our party has done great work toward further implementing the decisions of the Ninth SED Congress in the fields of domestic and foreign policy. During this period, a great movement has begun throughout the country toward preparing for the GDR's 30th anniversary, which is increasingly furthering the fulfillment of the daily tasks. The Politburo has constantly directed its attention toward promoting a mass initiative in the spirit of our program of growth, well-being and stability. All in all, its activity has served to further develop the party's activity in accordance with the main aims of our policy and to strengthen our socialist state of workers and peasants.

The results are reflected in the rise in economic performance, in social progress and in intellectual-cultural life. The fraternal alliance with the Soviet Union and the other socialist states has been strengthened.

In foreign policy, we have simultaneously made our constructive contribution in the interests of continuing the process of detente, peaceful coexistence, the struggle to end the arms race and for disarmament. Anti-imperialist solidarity with the peoples fighting for national and social liberation was also strengthened in this same period.

Now, the 30th anniversary of the founding of socialist GDR is coming closer and closer. The historic greatness of this event is acknowledged in the addresses from the SED Central Committee, State Council and GDR Council of Ministers, as well as in addresses from the National Council of the National Front. The creation of the first workers' and peasants' state on German soil was a victory for socialism and a defeat for imperialism. After 30 years of the GDR's successful development, it becomes all the more obvious that this brought about a turning point in the history of our people and in the history of Europe.

Our successes are based on the fraternal alliance with the Soviet Union and the firm anchoring of our state in the socialist community. Thus the GDR is part of the strongest and most influential force of our epoch--the international socialist system.

The Politburo has laid down measures for preparing and holding the 30th anniversary of the foundation of the GDR. These measures are fully in the spirit of the further implementation of the decisions of the Ninth SED congress. We want to actively use the period up to 7 October 1979, to unceasingly consolidate our party's solidarity with the people and its contact with the masses. It is important that we advance our country still further by means of new, great labor deeds and by achieving good results in socialist competition in all social fields, thus simultaneously making an important contribution toward strengthening socialism and social progress in the world.

The 30 years of the GDR's existence, is unique proof of the triumph of the ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin on German soil. It becomes clearer with each passing day that the GDR is truly a workers-peasants state representing the interests of all the people. In it, the working class and all other workers have--for the first time in German history--found a real fatherland. Here, their daily work, achievements, ideas and initiatives prove richly fruitful for everyone's benefit.

Our socialist state power, in which socialist democracy is being continually developed and perfected, guarantees all citizens a life of peace, freedom and social security. It also guarantees them a high level of education and access to cultural treasures. It does everything in the interests of the working people to guarantee the protection of the revolutionary achievements and reliably defend socialism and peace.

The GDR's future in the community of socialist fraternal states has clearly defined contours. This was discussed at the meeting of the Central Committee Secretariat with the first secretaries of the kreis directorates. By further shaping the advanced socialist society, we are creating the prerequisite for the gradual transition to communism. Our ideals are becoming reality. We are thus converting into practice the world-changing ideas of Karl Marx, whose 160th birthday we ceremoniously celebrated a short time ago, Engels and Lenin. To accomplish this work in our time is a great revolutionary cause. Before the end of this year, an extraordinary event is to take place. As you know, GDR cosmonauts, along with their Soviet comrades and comrades from the other socialist fraternal countries are preparing--part of the intercosmos program--for a joint space flight.

Comrades! An essential part of the Politburo's activity in foreign policy was devoted to those questions connected with the struggle for peace and security and for the continuation of the process of detente and disarmament. We have persistently made efforts to contribute to their solution and to bringing about further progress for peaceful coexistence among states with differing social systems. This is what the decisions of our ninth party congress demand. This is in accordance with the Helsinki final act in its entirety, and is how we will proceed in the future.

Events show that international disagreement regarding the goals of peace and detente has in no way diminished. Instead, it has intensified. We must not allow ourselves to be diverted from this realistic assessment by those who conceal their aggressive aims behind a smokescreen of peaceful words. The facts speak for themselves. Prominent imperialist circles are trying by every means possible to return to the "cold war." They are increasing--from NATO--the speed of the arms race, are attempting to undermine the positive results of detente in Europe and are attacking the core of the policy of peaceful coexistence. As you know, the core of this policy consists in consolidating security, upholding the inviolability of borders, respecting the principles of sovereignty, noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries and in developing equal, mutually advantageous cooperation. The strict observance of these principles, however, is the decisive prerequisite for a lasting, stable peace. It is also in the interests of all peoples.

The recent Budapest meeting of Central Committee secretaries from communist and workers parties on ideological and international questions rightly came to the conclusion that international developments are currently marked by the intertwining of two opposing trends. On the one hand, there is the trend toward strengthening detente; on the other, there is the arms race, stirred up by imperialism, as well as by the exacerbation of ideological differences. It is important for mankind which trend triumphs. We are in favor of peace and against war--for which, by their continual arming, the imperialists are preparing. On our side, we have those historic successes achieved by socialism during the past 60 years, which are continually being augmented. Naturally, part of our struggle for detente is to make people repeatedly aware of these facts.

A few months ago, the Belgrade followup meeting to the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe ended. The Politburo received a report on this. According to this, the assessment made of the Bucharest meeting by the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee was confirmed. Positions have been secured along the path of detente that cannot easily be reversed.

The main political result of the meeting consisted in the fact that the Helsinki final act remained unshaken as the fundamental document of detente. Its importance as a whole was reaffirmed. In Belgrade, some NATO circles undertook massive attempts to sidestep the results of the Helsinki conference and to push through a document that ran counter to the spirit and letter of the final act. At the same time they attempted--under the cover of false phrases concerning human rights--to totally distort the picture of real socialism and thus counter its power of attraction for the broad masses.

They failed in this and will fail in all such future attempts as well. Along with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, we are firmly resolved to move further along the path embarked upon in Helsinki, the path of reducing confrontation between states with differing social systems and toward security and cooperation.

Our main task is to make political detente irreversible and to augment it through military detente. This means that we have to put the enemies of detente firmly in their place.

Dear Comrades: At precisely this moment we deeply feel the need to praise the tremendous contribution to the cause of peace the CPSU and the USSR are making in the interest of all mankind. Since the days of Lenin, and in his spirit, they have been the pioneers of a life for the peoples from which the dangers of war are banished forever. Since international developments are reaching a point where so much is at stake for peace and a happy future for the world, they are once more proving themselves convincingly in their historic mission.

At the 18th Komsomol Congress, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, submitted an initiative of world importance. The program he proposed on concrete measures on arms limitation is suited both to making possible and accelerating the settlement of the most urgent issues existing nowadays in the interest of world peace. This program has our complete approval. Lasting peace, security and cooperation between the peoples can only be guaranteed when the arms race ends and when disarmament becomes the pioneer of further detente.

We regard the visit to the FRG by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev as an important step toward further developing the coordinated policy of the socialist community for securing peace. The course of this visit, and in particular Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's remarks, once again highlighted the Soviet Union's leading role in the struggle for security and detente. The main questions discussed were peace and disarmament, as well as cooperation between governments, states and peoples in accordance with the principles of peaceful coexistence.

The course and results of the visit met with a wide response in the GDR. It made clear that, in spite of all countercurrents, detente is the determining trend in international development. It helped stabilize all the factors necessary to free mankind from the nightmare of atomic destruction. In spite of steps recently taken in the FRG against continuing the policy of detente--which are reflected, in particular, in the FRG's arming--it must be regarded as a success that, in the documents signed during Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's visit, the continuation of the policy of detente was endorsed. It became clear that progress in further implementing the process of political detente urgently necessitates steps in the field of military detente.

Together with our allies, we do not overlook the fact that during the visit, some FRG representatives tried to bring up old revanchist concepts, largely directed against the GDR. These people have not grasped the fact that acceptance of the territorial status quo in Europe is the basis for any reasonable policy in Europe. It would be a dangerous mistake not to recognize this. All dreams to this effect were resolutely opposed. During Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's visit, a blow was dealt to the anticommunist campaign in the FRG and to slanders against the Soviet Union's policy. The visit helped support the positions of FRG groups holding realistic attitudes.

On the whole, we would like to say that Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and his entourage did great work, which is having a strong influence on the development of world policy. It was of great importance to the socialist states' policy of peace, to the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the FRG and to some extent also to the normalization of relations between the GDR and the FRG.

In his television speech, Comrade Brezhnev rightly stated that the positive processes initiated in international relations have mainly slowed down because of the arms race. He said that there can be no more important task than that of stopping this race. For what must be avoided is mankind sliding into a war. A general, just and lasting peace--this is the great aim. This is what the Soviet Union and we, too, are directing all our efforts toward.

Our common views were once again expressed during the recent visit by Andrey Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Soviet foreign minister. We had a productive exchange of views and were able to establish complete agreement on all issues discussed. In the same way as our bilateral relations acquire new dimensions in every aspect and prove to benefit both peoples, so also is our procedure in the international arena reliably coordinated. Together with the other allied socialist states and in cooperation with all circles guided by reason and realism, we want to persistently strengthen the powers of peace.

The banning of the neutron weapon occupies a particularly important place on the agenda of international politics. The Politburo has discussed this issue several times. A delegation from the GDR Peace Council took an active part in the international forum to protest the neutron bomb, which was held in March in Amsterdam. As a result of U.S. plans to produce the neutron bomb, the danger of a nuclear war was necessarily increased and a new round in the arms race was introduced. It is therefore the duty of every genuine will for peace to continue to call resolutely for the unconditional and mutual renunciation of the production and deployment of the neutron weapon.

Together with the fraternal countries, the GDR supports the USSR's consistent efforts to reach agreement in the talks with the United States on concluding a new agreement to limit strategic arms. Such an agreement on the basis of equality and equal security for all concerned would greatly encourage further steps toward ending the arms race.

We advocate that agreements acceptable to all sides be reached at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of forces and armaments. In spite of numerous compromise proposals put forward by the socialist states, no result has as yet been reached. The NATO states continue to insist on stipulations which would give them unilateral military advantages.

Yesterday, the special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament began in New York. The GDR will take an active part in this meeting, which provides great opportunities for intensifying the disarmament efforts of peoples and governments. Given good will on the part of all participants, the consultations can be useful for implementing the numerous constructive disarmament proposals and for drawing closer to a world disarmament conference.

Comrades: If one reviews the turbulent course of international developments, one can confirm that the implementation of the principles of peaceful coexistence is a complicated process. Different class interests clash in this regard and despite all progress, the process simply does not follow a straight line. The wild anti-Soviet incitement campaign which the imperialist enemies of detente and disarmament are employing and their recent slanderous campaign directed against the GDR and other socialist countries offer ample evidence of this. But just as these machinations cannot obscure the real motives and intentions of their perpetrators, neither can they damage our policy of peace and cooperation. Whoever considers diversion, or any sort of interference in our internal affairs to be appropriate behavior, will suffer a fiasco, as has happened before. Of this we are sure.

We remain consistent defenders of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. As you know, even the politicians and governments of capitalist states cannot remain blind to the view that there is no sensible alternative. International relations developed on the basis of peaceful coexistence are advantageous to the progress of detente, just as, conversely, a revival of "cold war" practices can only be detrimental. This applies particularly to Europe, where the Warsaw Pact and NATO come up directly against each other, and where the barometer of detente is particularly sensitive.

If one acts in accordance with this principle, then the unalterable social difference existing between the socialist GDR and the capitalist FRG need not be an obstacle to the development of normal international relations. Much can be settled sensibly if the proper climate exists. At present, one cannot yet speak of this as reality. Nevertheless, we are ready to help remove obstacles from the path--obstacles which we did not put there.

As long as the FRG always proceeds on the basis of the principles agreed upon in the basic treaty--including borders recognition, respect for sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs--then progress is possible. The question of relations between the GDR and the FRG, is one involving two sovereign states independent of each other. When one repeatedly brings up old concepts which history has long since antiquated, he is completely disregarding and senselessly fighting against this fact.

It is well known to the Central Committee members that in April, a DKP delegation, led by its party chairman, Comrade Herbert Mies, paid a friendship visit to the GDR. The comrades from the FRG held a number of cordial meetings with workers of our country, which developed into impressive manifestations of proletarian solidarity. The respect and understanding of our citizens for the difficult struggle of the DKP was expressed, especially regarding their struggle for the establishment of unity of action in the working class and the creation of wide democratic alliances, aimed at facilitating social and democratic progress in the FRG. It could also be said that the securing of peace and the normalization of relations between the GDR and the FRG is in the national interests of the FRG.

Since the seventh plenary session, 65 delegations from communist and workers' parties, national revolutionary parties and movements, as well as socialists of social-democratic parties have been guests of the SED. During the same period, our party has sent 63 delegations for exchanges of views and experiences with communist and workers' parties as well as with national revolutionary parties and movements. We are endeavoring to continually deepen internationalist cooperation between the fraternal parties in the joint interests of socialism and peace. At the same time, we are contributing to realizing the document of the Berlin conference and we are consolidating solidarity in the struggle to achieve the aims for action unanimously agreed upon in Berlin.

The Politburo repeatedly dealt with issues relating to anti-imperialist cooperation with the nationally liberated states and the national liberation movements. We attach great importance to this cooperation, as a component part of the international class struggle against imperialism. A hotspot is Africa--in the truest sense of the word, a continent inflamed. Here, the imperialist powers are especially intent on regaining for themselves the areas of exploitation and domination which they have lost, hoping to maintain their positions through neocolonialist means.

Renewed evidence of this is the massive interference by the NATO powers in Zaire's internal conflict. Whatever the pretexts the interventionist powers put forward, in the Zairian Province of Shaba, the area in Africa richest in cobalt, diamonds and copper deposits, the multinational monopolies are concerned about their naked profits and exploitative interests. And wherever these interests become endangered, the imperialists governments concerned deploy their military power apparatus unscrupulously, in order to retain the raw material resources, while simultaneously securing their military and strategic positions. Once again, we see how imperialism drops the cloak of humanity, sovereignty and respect for the peoples of Africa when its power positions are involved. This is a blow against the right to self-determination of every people on the African Continent and a serious threat to peace.

We, on the other hand, proceed in our policy toward Africa from completely different positions, and other prerequisites. Our aim is the liberation and national, political and economic self-determination of the African peoples.

It is well known that we are actively supporting the peoples of Ethiopia, Angola, Mozambique and the liberation movements in southern Africa alongside the Soviet Union, Cuba and the other socialist fraternal states. At this Central Committee meeting we also reaffirm our active solidarity with the Ethiopian revolution, the course of which is marked by far-ranging social, economic and political changes. The attempt by imperialism and other reactionary forces to nip it in the bud through military intervention was foiled. The main task now is to create peace in this region on the basis of respect for Ethiopia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Due to the strengthening of socialism and the impact of revolutionary changes in various African countries, resistance to colonial and racist regimes in southern Africa has undergone an unprecedented upswing. The pressure on the regimes in Salisbury and Pretoria has been increased considerably.

Regarding Namibia, the central issue at present is the achievement of independence and freedom for its people. For this reason the majority of UN member-states demanded at the recent UN special session--in which the GDR participated actively--the immediate withdrawal by South Africa from this country. The South African troops must be completely pulled out; the power structure of the old colonial rulers must be dissolved and the territorial integrity and political unity of Namibia must be recognized. We vigorously condemn the criminal invasion of Angola by the soldiers of the South African racist regime. It again makes clear the intention of the South African racist regime to prevent, by whatever means, the independence of Namibia.

Under the leadership of the ANC of South Africa, the struggle of the South African people against apartheid and racial discrimination has taken on a mass character. We condemn the racial practices of the Vorster regime and demand the abolition of racial discrimination and apartheid. They are an imperialist scourge. They violate elementary human rights and constitute a permanent threat to peace and security. The points of conflict in this region are being further aggravated by the secretly developed nuclear power of the Republic of South Africa, which is supported and tolerated by the imperialists.

We are following the continuing tensions in the Middle East with deep concern. These were further increased by Israel's aggressions in southern Lebanon, which was prepared well beforehand. Israel is grossly violating the sovereignty and integrity of another Arab state, the Republic of Lebanon, and is openly pursuing its intention to occupy Lebanon's southern territories. At the same time, a severe blow is meant to be dealt to the PLO.

We protest the recent Israeli aggression and demand an immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops. We energetically oppose all machinations directed against the PLO; the nationalist-patriotic forces in Lebanon and all progressive forces in the Middle East.

In view of this situation, the union of all progressive, anti-imperialist and nationalist forces, and the consolidation of their cooperation and work with that of the Soviet Union and other states of the socialist community, is shown to be an urgent necessity. A just and comprehensive settlement can only be reached if the provision regarding Israel's withdrawal from all territories occupied in 1967 is adhered to and if it is intrinsically combined with a guarantee of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arabs, including their right to form their own state, as well as a guarantee of the independent existence and security of all states in this region.

As you know, the first meeting of the Fifth National People's Congress was held in the PRC. In accordance with the policy laid down by the 11th Congress of the Chinese Communist Party, the modifications made in domestic policy at this meeting serve only to stabilize the regime in order to fulfill, by means of more effective methods, the PRC's unaltered, chauvinistic power goals. The struggle against the Soviet Union and the socialist community and the PRC's war preparations--which propaganda claims to be inevitable--were constitutionally anchored and raised to the level of a long-term state policy.

The Soviet Union once again took the initiative to normalize relations with the PRC. On the eve of the meeting of the people's congress, the USSR Supreme Soviet made an appropriate appeal to the Permanent Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC. This demonstrates the consistent, upright policy of the Soviet Union aimed at reestablishing relations with China on a good neighborly basis and it therefore meets with our unqualified approval.

In a letter to the Permanent Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC, the GDR State Council welcomed the Soviet initiative and proposed to the Chinese side that it proceed along the course embarked upon by the USSR. We expressed concern that the PRC Government had rejected the proposals made by the Supreme Soviet Presidium. At the same time, their attention was drawn to the positive effects which a normal relationship between the PRC and the Soviet Union and all socialist states, based upon the interests of peace and of the peoples, would have on the further development of relations between the GDR and the PRC. We will consistently continue, in our relations with the PRC, along the course laid down by the Ninth SED Congress.

Dear comrades: In the field of domestic policy, the Politburo paid great attention to the further implementation of our program for well-being, growth and stability. It repeatedly analyzed the course of the plan, and from this it drew the necessary conclusions and decisions. At the same time, the Politburo dealt with the future development of the material-technological basis in important fields of the economy. The shaping of an advanced socialist society requires a lasting dynamic rise in economic performance. And the prerequisites for this must be secured in advance. Questions of intensification and rationalization, especially of accelerating scientific-technical progress, were thus further elaborated.

On the basis of good experiences in developing the industrial complexes, and in view of their importance to the dynamic rise in our economic performance further steps were taken to apply modern methods on a wider and more consistent scale.

For example, the Politburo looked at proposals for improving the ministries' work. And in this respect, an important role is played by both the formation of new and the expansion of existing industrial complexes. In coordination with the ministries and bezirk directorates, we took into consideration the experiences and achievements of those complexes which come directly under the ministries' authority. The complexes which are now being created incorporate improved standards for the production and sale of products. They enable socialist economic activity to be comprehensively organized at the site of the reproduction process. Scope is given here to modern management, in order to guarantee the close cooperation of research and development with production, to secure the most important supplies, and to insure the purposeful rationalization and the well-organized sale of products here and abroad. Above all, we expect the complexes to reach a higher rate of progress in introducing new technologies and new products for both the home economy and for export.

Here it is a question of a deep-rooted economic and political process and not merely one of organizational changes. The development of existing complexes and the creation of new ones, which are being given a great deal of individual responsibility in our economy, is, at present, the important step toward perfecting their management and planning. All this requires basic, careful preparation and needs the support of the bezirk directorates. It is obvious that consequently, greater demands are being placed on the ministries and state planning commission. In the complexes, we are developing large high-performance economic units which we need both to fulfill successfully the tasks we have set to achieve by 1980, and to solidly prepare the 1981-85 plan.

Comrades: The meeting of the Secretariat of the Central Committee with the first secretaries of the kreis directorates unleashed a broad initiative. Consequently, socialist competition received strong incentives and is increasingly being directed to utilizing the qualitative factors of economic growth. Workers reported in many letters to the Central Committee that in 1977 they successfully completed their commitments and are now setting themselves new, ambitious goals for the 30th anniversary of the republic. These are favorable conditions for the fulfillment of the 1978 plan and the preparations for the 1979 plan.

Recently, the state Central Statistical Administration presented a detailed review of the past 2 years' fulfillment of the Ninth SED Congress decisions. This was assessed in detail by the Politburo, and we have acquainted all members and candidate members of the Central Committee with the results. They demonstrate that we have achieved a great deal but have much yet to do.

In 1976-77, the proportional 5-year plan goals within higher plan tasks were fulfilled and even exceeded. This was managed despite price rises on the world market. The goals for industrial goods production were fully achieved during these years. The planned increase in labor productivity in industry was exceeded. Taking 1976 and 1977 together, the national income rose to 109 percent, economic industrial goods production rose to 111.1 percent and labor productivity in the field of the industrial ministries rose to 110.9 percent. Our growth in performance and efficiency is therefore very considerable--even from an international point of view.

In accordance with the demands of a systematic proportional development, our material-technological base was further expanded. Due to crop failures as a result of the weather, we remained, particularly in 1976, somewhat below the planned figure in terms of national income. Nevertheless, due to the great performance of the workers, 1976 resulted in a national income of M147.5 billion (figures based on comparable prices of 1975) and 1977 produced M155.2 billion.

During the first 2 years of the 5-year plan, the stable economic growth, in accordance with the goal of the main task, enabled the population's material and cultural living standards to be noticeably improved even further.

The qualitative factors of economic growth also achieved greater efficiency. The increase in performance achieved in 1976 and 1977 was due, to a greater degree than during the previous 5-year plan, to socialist intensification and greater efficiency in production.

Science and technology made an important contribution in this respect. The tasks of the state plan for science and technology which deal with production efficiency and production preparation were fulfilled both in 1976 and 1977. In the field of industry, 347.4 million hours of working time were saved, due primarily to scientific-technological achievements. The quality of many products was improved. More products and processes are achieving the level of international standards. We must realize, however, that the progress we have made in developing technologies and products to meet top international standards is not yet enough.

The Central Committee knows that, during the past few years, our research and development potential has increased considerably. The Politburo has various views on the necessity of letting this potential be used for an even greater productivity growth, thus making better use of the advantages of our socialist social system.

The economic use of materials has been improved especially as a result of scientific and technical progress. The specific consumption of economically important raw and other material in relation to industrial goods production fell by 2.9 percent both in 1976 and 1977. The directive for the 5-year plan provides for an annual drop of 3 percent. Considerable reserves will be opened up if we achieve optimum values corresponding to the advanced international level. It is becoming increasingly essential to apply technologies designed to save materials, and to work with norms and standards for the consumption of materials and stockpiling. Still better use can be made of the new industrial prices and the decision on the assessing the performance of the enterprises and combines so as to stimulate measures for the economic use of materials.

Investments amounting to M88 billion were made to modernize, reequip and enlarge fixed assets. This means that the overall plan was fulfilled. In 1976 and 1977 investments proceeded more steadily than during the previous years. This is certainly a success. In some sectors, however, investments were insufficiently prepared and shortcomings arose in the provision of equipment of the required range. Building resources did not always correspond to the required structures of the building trades.

In general it must be stated that the reproduction of fixed assets does not yet take sufficient account of the requirements of rationalization. More than before it is a question of using our resources to make do with fewer jobs. That is the chief method for obtaining manpower, for making use of existing machines and installations. Our investments are intended to result in an ever growing increase in production. Fulfillment of the investment plan requires that each annual plan define the correct sequence in which the production capacities are to be built and the individual projects are to be completed, that dates and estimates must be observed, and that the new capacities should be eased into the overall process of increasing production.

We can state therefore that the tasks of the 5-year plan are being solved successfully. This is the result of the great performance of the working people. However, some backlog still exists. This is true, for instance, of exports to the nonsocialist economic area.

Trade must not be a one-way street. We are entitled to expect our partners also to contribute to balanced trade by removing trade barriers, restrictions and other administrative obstacles.

The positive trend in the development of our national economy has continued with the plan fulfillment during the first 4 months of 1978. We consider it essential that proposals for the first quarter counterplan have been drawn up, centrally costed and endorsed, which provides for the state plan targets of industrial goods production for 1978 to be exceeded by M1.5 billion. We proceed from the assumption that existing reserves have by no means been fully opened up. This is shown by the discussions in enterprises. It is important to produce goods for which there is a demand both in the home and external markets. This also includes spare parts.

By the end of April important plan targets were achieved and exceeded. The state target for industrial goods production of the national economy, including the counterplan, was exceeded by M163 million. Labor productivity in industry rose more quickly than planned. The tasks of the science and technology state plan were fulfilled by 101 percent. Supplies to the population were by and large provided according to plan and in some sectors further improved. The house-building plan has been fulfilled although backlogs exist in 38 kreise.

Once again the working people have done well. But it must not be overlooked that in a considerable number of enterprises the results have been achieved through a substantial number of hours of overtime and extra shifts. Genuine progress in this sphere is possible only if the production process is mastered still more efficiently by the responsible management, and, above all, if rationalization is pursued with greater consistency. Generally and specifically we regard the further improvement of production continuity as a significant reserve.

It is also necessary to solve the question of spare parts. This is no longer an economic but a political question. At the suggestion of the Politburo the Council of Ministers has taken the requisite measures. Now it is a question of action, the results of which will be felt by everyone.

The progress of the plan so far confirms that the commitment of the working people in honor of the GDR's 30th anniversary leads step by step to tangible material results. At the same time, the Politburo points out that it is necessary to earnestly improve the managerial activities of the state still further for the all-round fulfillment of the plan.

In various enterprises, combines, and associations of publicly owned enterprises (VVB) backlogs exist concerning quantitative and qualitative index figures and tasks. In general it is necessary to strengthen the strict observance of contractual undertakings and honesty in plan fulfillment. As far as industrial goods production is concerned, by the end of April the VVB's and combines had not completely fulfilled the aims of the state planned targets, including the counterplan. The Wolfen film factory, VVB radio and television, gearboxes and clutches, steel sheet metal and metal goods, as well as shoes and leather goods all had backlogs.

Dear comrades. The requirements of the second half of the current 5-year plan, as well as the preparations for the period after 1980, have determined the Politburo's work in defining the material-technical base. This centers on questions of a sector of fundamental importance for our national economy: our country's raw material base. In the nature of things development processes reaching far into the future are needed. The tasks and outlook of the chemical industry, ferrous metallurgy and the technical glass industry were discussed.

For us the main thing is to make more extensive use of lignite. In future it will be used even more for both energy production and for raw material purposes. At the same time measures have been decided upon aimed at placing crude oil at our disposal, more motor fuel and more basic products for further chemical processing. This helps considerably to keep costly crude oil imports within limits.

Although these tasks are long term, their solution must be prepared now from a material point of view. Conclusions for coal production and processing can be drawn from this. New technologies must be introduced. It is very gratifying to see that the science academy and the Freiberg Mining Academy are purposefully carrying out with the industry the research necessary for this.

The decisions regarding ferrous metallurgy and the technical glass industry also outline the further extension of production fields, which to a certain extent belong to the foundation of planned proportional development and economy. Further progress is being effected mainly through the thorough application of modern scientific findings, that is, by way of intensification.

Together with all this we take into consideration the current changes in economic conditions in production and in developing productive forces. This affects the need to use energy and raw materials considerably more economically, just as it affects the new trends in production technology using microelectronics. Resulting from this are new demands and possibilities for rationalizing, for saving on embodied and live labor. It is in line with this that we must utilize the advantages inherent in socialism.

The Politburo has dealt with the extension and perfection of the range of high-grade consumer goods available. The scientific, technical and qualitative aims for the tasks contained in the plan regarding the new or further development of consumer goods are to be raised. The times scheduled for period of time, new goods of high utility value for the population are to be developed and produced. Consumer goods which are already being produced are to be decisively improved--in their quality, reliability and design.

Stress was laid on the importance of conscientiously meeting the pledges the enterprises' collectives have entered into in this field. Every enterprise should stake its honor on concretely contributing--in preparation for the 30th anniversary of the GDR--to improving the quality of the goods available in our shops.

Much time was devoted in the Politburo's work to the implementation of the housing construction program. An analysis shows that we have made great progress in realizing the corresponding Central Committee decisions. After all, between 1971 and 1977 922,000 dwellings were built from scratch or modernized. This means that living space was created for about 3 million citizens. From 1978 to 1980 alone, proceeding from the 5-year plan, 473,500 dwellings are to be built, 347,000 of them from scratch.

It is being shown, though, that it is necessary to solve in a timely manner the new problems arising when implementing the housing construction program. This includes such questions as materially securing its fulfillment and overfulfillment; the timely provision of municipal utilities; the more favorable arrangement of the relationship between effort and result; the speedier shaping of the housing estates; the more extensive industrialization of the building industry, including small-scale mechanization. These are the main questions as regards mastering the growing tasks in housing construction.

We would like to stress the initiative of all architects, city planners and competent state clients, who, on the basis of the basic direction laid down at the construction conference, are proceeding to create living areas in which a person can really feel comfortable. This also applies to the so-called "small solutions," such as the inn on the corner. It applies, on the whole, to the combination of what is worth preserving of the old and the new. It is very important in this respect to incorporate scenic possibilities into urban and rural housing construction. Good examples should be used on a general basis.

In summary, it can be said that the creation of the prerequisites for a long-term performance increase in our economy occupies an important place in the Politburo's work. Raw materials, supplies and equipment, not least the qualifying of cadres, must be taken care of in good time. In this respect, we pay great attention to the expansion of the material-technological basis and also, of course, to the continual improved utilization of existing finances.

It is simultaneously important to tackle the serious violations of party and state discipline that have very negative effects on fulfilling the plan, especially regarding investment. Thus, an investigation by the workers-peasants inspectorate and the State Bank revealed that at present investments of this nature, not provided for in the plan, are very extensive, often involving large-scale projects. Labor forces, constructing capacities and material are used for these which are withheld from investments provided for by the plan. This violates the stipulations of the law and upsets the balance of the plan. The concept of "initiative" is really inappropriate here.

Naturally we support socially useful initiatives in all fields that mobilize reserves in excess of the plan. But the plan and initiative measures are in no way strictly separated from each other, as is believed by some. The best initiative measures, however, are directed toward drawing up ambitious, real plans and fulfilling and purposefully exceeding them. Wherever the practice is otherwise, it must be rectified. The most important field is material production. The most valuable initiatives are those aimed at high achievements in rationalization. They can consolidate the plan and lend it proportion and coherence.

By means of planning, we must guide the most important proportions of our economy even more complexly, accurately and effectively in their development. This is provided for by the decisions of the ninth congress. We have taken measures to complete rationalization projects swiftly and to strengthen further export-promoting enterprises. They are all necessary and right. The Politburo stresses, however, that in the future such important steps for increasing performance in industry must, in some cases, be brought up for decision with more foresight and be balanced with the plan on an all-round basis.

This is naturally directed above all to the State Planning Commission and the ministries. However, proportionality is at the same time influenced by the all-round fulfillment of planned tasks by every combine and enterprise. If, at the end of April [year indistinct] the production targets in nine positions of the state plan are not met, this will upset the smooth running of the economy. The same effect is caused by setbacks in investment projects, such as frequently occur in the chemical industry. The responsibility of every director is therefore called upon for a consistent implementation of the plan. Also called upon is the responsibility of all costing authorities, their obligation to improve substantially the work with the construction costs, with material and equipment costs.

The politburo regards the common denominator of the efforts to fulfill the economic political tasks as being a maximum of effectiveness and quality in work.

By this means, it is a question of doing everything in order to increase the yearly rise in national income over and above the previous increase rates.

Experience has shown that to this end management and planning must pay even more attention to the divisible economic product. This does not on any account give rise, merely to the question of plan methods. It is a question of higher, measurable labor results which correspond to the social requirements. What must be achieved is a better evaluation of economic performance; the stimulation of a greater increase in the national income.

The growth of the end product cannot be separated from the reduction in expenditure. We consider it very important to reduce production expenditure. We are still producing at too high a cost in many fields. Too much material and energy, too much working effort and work equipment is used per product. Every positive change in this field brings us more national income. In further fulfilling the 1978 plan and preparing the 1979 plan, it is important to advance toward answering these questions.

Dear Comrades: The extent to which we succeed in solving these tasks naturally depends first and foremost on the scientific and technological results. The Politburo has continually dealt with this central topic of our economic strategy and has come to a number of decisions. They are aimed at energetically accelerating scientific and technological progress and promoting economic and social effectiveness. The main aim is to achieve results and to embark upon ways of applying them which bring about decisive improvements for our national economy.

We are able to note that the guidelines regarding consistent socialist rationalization have received a strong response. The Politburo stresses their special importance once more. The key to solving this task lies in purposefully introducing new technologies and creating material prerequisites for this. Thus, in the final analysis, the growing intellectual capability of our country is further slated for an economic and social upswing.

The importance of the fact that last year in science and technology we achieved a good development performance, which is continuing in 1978, should not be underestimated. Of the tasks concluded so far in the state science and technology plan very many have obtained high results, which were in line with the latest international level. This was revealed in the report made to the Politburo by the minister for science and technology. He reported on the gains in efficiency and quality achieved in 1977 through the science and technology plan. The Politburo discussion gave rise to conclusions for the elaboration of the tasks for science and technology.

Their major aim is to further increase the level of performance which first and foremost depends on the extent to which the results of research and development help save jobs, improve quality, simultaneously make better use of materials, and increase the benefits of investment. It is becoming increasingly important that we obtain greater income--not the same or even falling--on the world market with new and further developed products.

The Central Committee Secretariat dealt with matters relating to industrial design as an important component part of product quality. It decided on measures aimed at effectively promoting and stimulating design. During the early stages of the development of new products, design must be given corresponding attention. The main thing is to create highly productive capacities in the combines which allow the industrial designers to work closely with draughtsmen and technologists.

In the discussions with the ministers of the chemical industry, as well as with science and technology, with the Chamber of Technology and some combines, questions were discussed which should contribute to removing obstacles in the way of achieving a high performance standard with the aid of science and technology. This affects the effectiveness of the standards pertaining to the use of materials, product quality, the encouragement of inventive work by engineers and innovators, as well as the training and deployment of technologists.

In this context the Chamber of Technology is also entrusted with responsible tasks. At its seventh congress it will discuss current results and future demands with the members of the scientific and technological intelligentsia. The Presidium of the Chamber of Technology has informed the Central Committee Secretariat of the stage reached in preparations for the congress and the basic guidelines for its further activity.

An important element in continuing the performance-based wages policy is the introduction of basic wages. The Politburo has heard a report on the results and experiences up to now, and was able to note that this work is being carried out with broad support from the working people. Basic wages are being introduced step by step in 700 enterprises and combines. At present 600,000 production workers are working in accordance with them. So far performance-based salary increases have been implemented for 30,000 foremen and for about 10,000 higher education and technical education cadres.

The introduction of basic wages and the performance-based increase in the salaries of foremen, higher education and technical education cadres are proving to be effective material and moral incentives for raising labor efficiency and quality.

The tempo and extent of our scientific and technological progress depend to a major degree on how ministers, directors general and works managers handle their personal responsibility for directing research and technology. Without exception all of the discussions by the Politburo and the Central Committee Secretariat on these matters confirm the importance of this commitment. To adjust today to the large growth in national economic performance in the coming years means above all looking ahead and gearing the entire scientific and technological work to this.

Our own economic objectives are ever more closely linked with the process by which the national economies of the GDR and the USSR are becoming intertwined, and with the socialist economic integration of the CEMA countries. In this community one can march forward in security.

The Politburo attaches great importance to drawing up the program of specialization and cooperation of the GDR and USSR national economies for the period from 1980 until 1990. By this program we will raise our economic and scientific-technical cooperation to a higher level. It will contain the long-term guidelines by which our national economies will continue to converge.

As you know, our cooperation is already based on a solid and broad foundation. Government agreements and accords regulate it in some respects beyond 1980. The new program will build on this and map out the entire complex of the division of labor between the GDR and the USSR for the important sectors of the national economy to 1990.

This concerns joint projects in research and cooperation in production, in particular effective technologies, new equipment and materials. Specialization in production must be deepened.

In this respect we will pay particular attention to end products where we can jointly meet requirements even more effectively, further reduce imports from capitalist countries and materially increase our exports. In accordance with the directive of the Politburo and the agreements between both governments, work on the program is proceeding briskly. Moreover, firm links exist for drawing up the long-range target programs within CEMA.

At the Leipzig Spring Fair valuable work was done on solving the external tasks of our economy. For example, we were able to conclude substantially higher export contracts with the nonsocialist economic region than at the 1977 fair. But the plan sets still higher tasks. Intensive efforts must be made, therefore, to provide goods fit for export, to conclude contracts and carry them out conscientiously. The Politburo draws attention to this in its evaluation of the fair's results.

The GDR's principal problem is to substantially increase the production and supply of our industrial products with the highest export yield. At the same time this means to decide on and prepare the necessary changes in our production ranges. We must start this with the 1979 plan.

The State Planning Commission, the industrial ministries, the Ministry for Foreign Trade and the bezirk councils are called upon to make the necessary decisions now, on the basis of exact lists of products, to increase in 1979 the number of our exports that bring in foreign currency. Our long-term planning must advance this development still further. The higher requirements apply both to the socialist countries and to the capitalist ones.

Dear comrades: All questions of our economic policy which have been discussed concern in effect both the progress of the 1978 plan and the preparations for 1979 and 1980, as well as the prerequisites for the increase in performance during the subsequent period. It calls for a tough struggle to fulfill and overfulfill the present 5-year plan. At the same time the long-term work must be further developed.

The Politburo has instructed the State Planning Commission to draw up and present the outline for the development of our entire national economy from 1981 till 1985. In certain sectors we must reach timely decisions even beyond this period. This concerns above all important questions of safeguarding raw material supplies. It will be recalled that CEMA's longer-range target programs also cover long time periods that we must adjust to ourselves. To define present-day tasks with an assured eye to long-term prospects means to make use of one of the most important advantages of socialist society.

Dear comrades: The decisions of our ninth congress in agriculture and the food industry are of great importance for insuring stable supplies to the population. The Politburo has intensively discussed the relevant questions. The decision concerning the lessons resulting from the 1977 harvest for the further fulfillment of the economic plan is of particular significance. In the course of the extensive evaluation of this decision the cooperative peasants and agricultural workers have stressed again and again that their own experience fully accords with the conclusions drawn by the party leadership.

It will be recalled that the Politburo stressed in particular that last years' harvest had clearly shown how much depended on the integrated direction of work by the bezirk and kreis councils, and that this work should therefore be practiced more broadly and decisively. This orientation has already borne fruit during spring tilling and cultivation, which again took place under difficult weather conditions.

No one has as yet been able to plan the weather. But to prepare for the necessary operations during good and bad weather alike, and to bring in the crops with a minimum of loss; this can and must be done. All this makes demands on the cooperatives and agricultural enterprises, on the kreis and bezirk councils, as well as on the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Foodstuffs, which bears a great responsibility for further protecting the direction and planning of agricultural production.

It remains our fundamental policy to increase our domestic output of agricultural products in terms of both vegetables and dairy products. Last but not least, the output of fruit and vegetables must be increased. This task includes the constant improvement of the quality of agricultural production and processing.

In the interest of stable supplies for the working people of our country, the production of meat and vegetables especially must be raised in 1978 at a higher rate than originally envisaged by the 5-year plan. When the plan was drawn up, it was already assumed that demand for meat and meat products would increase. In fact, though, it has risen even more rapidly than expected. It is right, therefore, that the workers and cooperative peasants should be guided by these larger tasks in their socialist competition honoring the GDR's 30th anniversary. Owing to the bad weather, the scheduled yields for grain, potato and beets were not fully reached in 1977. In order to improve the fodder situation and create more favorable conditions for meat production and livestock-raising, the party leadership has decided to utilize corresponding imports from the nonsocialist economic region over time.

What matters now is to make the most efficient possible use of everything available. We are expending considerable resources for the material and technical bases of agriculture. A modern, well-equipped socialist agriculture has emerged in the GDR. Thus, in this economic sphere too, better utilization of the existing potential creates the greatest internal reserve. Greater performance demands, above all, advancement in intensification of production. This means that all material resources at the disposal of agriculture should be utilized more efficiently; this includes machines and buildings as well as materials, energy, water and soil.

Work is consistently undertaken to improve the quality of agricultural machines and other equipment and to make the necessary spare parts available. The Politburo has specified measures for this. At the same time, we must point out that the expensive technological equipment must be cared for and serviced more carefully. Agricultural servicing enterprises have proven successful in making their own contribution by building equipment, installations and rationalizing devices. It is particularly in animal husbandry that this method is being used. Many facilities should be further expanded and used more consistently. The rationalization and reconstruction of stalls raise growing demands and are assuming an increasingly important position in the complex mechanization process in animal husbandry.

How we succeed in socialist management, and in making full use of the advantages of industrial production is shown, above all, in the increasingly favorable ratio between expenditure and results in the economy. This yardstick should be applied even more consistently in all spheres of agricultural activity; it is particularly applicable, of course, to investments. It must become a firm principle that new technology be introduced when existing technology has been fully utilized and when, with use of the additional resources, a noticeable increase in performance and effectiveness is achieved.

Agricultural enterprises with high yields bear out the significance of agronomic discipline and continuous care for increasing soil fertility; one cannot overestimate what can be done when internal reserves are energetically and fully utilized. Irrigation and drainage form a decisive prerequisite for growing and stabilizing yields. The irrigated area can be expanded more quickly even when simple forms are applied more extensively.

In order to supply the population with fruit and vegetables, both large and small possibilities must be systematically developed. What agricultural produce we can produce for ourselves and what we can make available for supplies need not be imported. We let ourselves be guided by this factor. It is in this connection that we also examine the personal holdings and livestock of members of agricultural producer cooperatives, with the purpose of retaining and developing them.

Fulfillment of the goals for 1978 in production of fattened cattle and milk calls for even greater efforts. In this connection, it is particularly necessary to make purposeful use of tried methods. An important place in the production of animal feed is, as is known, assigned to fodder production. In this regard, the forefront of attention in the next few months will be occupied by the need to produce as much protein-rich and energy-giving dry green fodder as possible. In this way, fodder concentrates not required in cattle feeding can be used for production of pork. In September and October it will be necessary to produce quantities of whole corn plant pellets which can be used in cattle breedings in place of fodder grain and mixed fodder. At the same time, it is necessary to continuously produce as many straw pellets with green fodder ingredient as possible.

The high degree of socialization and the application of modern and, to some extent, ultra-modern equipment, make a complete revolution in GDR agricultural production increasingly possible. This production is in fact being increasingly industrialized. The new problems of its organization must be mastered with increasing success.

Everything undertaken is done so as a means to achieving high performance and efficiency. This must be our guiding principle. If specialization is involved, then another prime need is to secure cooperation in the whole production process. Long transportation routes for people and products must be avoided. The production process must always be clearly visible overall and be managed in a standardized manner. A certain stage has now been reached in the organization of our agricultural production. We must therefore, direct our attention now to consolidating what has been achieved, to raising the efficiency of the agricultural enterprises, and to this end releasing all their internal forces by means of intensification.

Comrades: The Politburo confirmed the aims and guidelines given for the Eighth Pedagogical Congress as well as the measures for its preparation. At this congress from 18 to 20 October in Berlin, stock will have to be taken of the fulfillment of school-related tasks in the period between the 9th and 10th party congresses. The representatives of our almost 400,000 teachers will proceed from the fact that the demands made of education have been outlined over a lengthy period in the party program.

The primary aim is to bring up an educated youth, imbued with love for our fatherland, the GDR, loyally devoted to proletarian internationalism and ready to work and fight for the highest ideals of humanity, for socialism and communism. In line with this, the congress will serve to exchange experiences and to discuss how the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of pedagogical work can be raised.

Our schools are also the result of revolutionary transformation in the field of ideology and culture. This revolution is part of the socialist society and is oriented around the science which forms the basis for this society--Marxism-Leninism--and around its policies, its economy, its culture and its values. At the same time, it actively influences the development of this society.

Without doubt, the Eighth Pedagogical Congress will come up with valuable answers to the question regarding future steps in developing the educational system.

It will also determine more precisely the demands made on the quality of that system's work, together with the tasks for the work of our teachers and for pedagogical science.

The school party organizations and pedagogue collectives have reacted to the decision by the Politburo and Council of Ministers to call the congress with diverse initiatives. Above all, their efforts are aimed at further progress in communist education of the youth at school and at solid political, pedagogical and specialist work in teaching. Conclusions were drawn as a result of a thorough review of what has been achieved up until the academic halfyear, so that the present school year will be successfully concluded at every school and the new school year well prepared for.

An atmosphere of a practical, critical approach to work must be further encouraged by the kreis directorates. An important aspect of this must be the further strengthening of the fighting force of the school party organizations. We can state that our bezirk and kreis directorates are trying increasingly to approach the communist training of youth at school as a task affecting all of society and, with the aid of basic party organizations, to make use of the many possibilities available to enterprises and social institutions to influence education and training. The leading party organs should continue to pay particular attention in the future to the cooperation between school, home, enterprise, FDB and Pioneer organizations in the communist training of youth at school.

During the period under review, our intellectual and cultural life and progress in the arts was augmented by preparations for the GDR's 30th anniversary. Evidence of this was provided by numerous competitions and exhibitions in the arts, as well as by folklore and cultural highlights in all enterprises and localities of our republic. Artists and cultural workers understand that the contribution of culture and the arts to the preparation of this important historic event in our country lies in influencing the continued shaping of our people's socialist way of life, and in creating important works of literature and art distinguished by a high content of socialist ideas that help satisfy the growing demand of our citizens for enrichment by socialist art.

A highlight in the cultivation and stimulation of the militant traditions of our socialist art was the GDR's homage to Bertolt Brecht on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the poet's birthday, from 10-15 February 1978. A highlight of this event was the formal transfer of the Brecht house and the festive opening of the new cultural center in the GDR capital in the presence of a delegation of the Politburo. The 1978 international Brecht dialog, "Art and Politics", demonstrated with its many creative discussions and artistic functions the topical influence and international effectiveness of Brecht's work.

The Eighth GDR Art Exhibition, which closed its gates in Dresden at the end of March, was an important cultural event. The more than 1 million visitors and the lively discussions engendered by this display of the visual and applied arts testify to the great response which our socialist art finds among the working people. At the same time, the exhibition aroused considerable interest among foreign visitors. The Eighth Art Exhibition demonstrated the far-reaching possibilities of artistic creation in helping to form socialist personalities and shape the socialist way of life. In the presentation of man in socialism, of the anti-imperialist struggle, of international solidarity and the history of our people as seen from the position of socialist realism, one sensed the artists' striving for imaginative artistic solutions and profound ideological and intellectual insights.

In the evaluation of the exhibition undertaken by the executive of the Association of Visual Artists, this is defined as a task to which artists will have to address themselves more strongly in future.

On 13 and 14 March 1978 the GDR conference on light entertainment took place in Berlin in the presence of a Central Committee delegation. The conference affirmed the links of the GDR artists engaged in light entertainment with our party and our socialist state. It stressed the contribution made by light art to the deepening of socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism and to the fashioning of socialist values. At the same time it testified to the growing international influence of our light art and its role in the ideological confrontation between socialism and imperialism.

Preparations for the Eighth GDR Writers Congress, which will open in Berlin within the next few days, have taken place in a politically, ideologically and artistically openminded atmosphere. The majority of writers took part in the creative discussion on the past achievements and future development of socialist-realistic literature. Many encounters of writers with their readers and an intensified public discussion about literature have imparted essential impulses to the preparations for the congress.

It will be recalled that I had a talk with the vice presidents of the Writers Union on 3 March 1978. In an openminded discussion, consultations took place on problems and tasks of the further development of literature in our society. Our party considers the Eighth GDR Writers Congress to be an important social event. It is convinced that the writers are aware of their responsibility in the struggles of our time and will continue to work in close association with the party of the working class as active fellow-builders of the advanced socialist society.

Comrades, the Politburo has proposed that elections to the Kreis assemblies, municipal assemblies, borough [stadtkreis] assemblies and parish [gemeinde] assemblies be held on 20 May 1979. They are an important social highlight prior to the 30th anniversary of the foundation of our GDR. The preparations, the reporting back by the deputies and the many talks with the voters will touch upon all aspects of the work of the organs of the state. Questions directly connected with the solution of the main task play a particular part. All party organizations, especially in the state organs, are well advised to prepare themselves accordingly in good time.

Great responsibility is borne by the National Front committees. It is important that they should be given every assistance.

The local government elections provide an opportunity to review the further development of our towns and parishes. By this we mean both the achievements so far in giving effect to the decisions of the ninth party congress and the changes that have taken place in the towns and parishes, in the life of their citizens during the past 3 decades.

The future deputies and council members will perform their duties far into the next 5-year plan. This makes great demands on their qualifications. Much attention must be paid everywhere to the careful selection of candidates and their examination and to the discussion in the works collectives before their nomination.

The first task of long-term election preparations is to secure the fulfillment of the plan everywhere. We also consider it indispensable that the deputies and the comrades in the councils should carefully examine how the requests of the citizens are being met, what must be done to find and utilize the possibilities and reserves in their respective territories.

For effective political activities among the masses by the deputies and officials, the principle must apply that combines at all times the explanation of our policy and the questions by members of the population with a responsible, disciplined implementation of the decisions of the party and the popular assemblies. This includes a strict system of government and a vigorous struggle to insure that personal responsibilities are fully exercised in all spheres.

Comrades: We are able to note that the party organizations in all sectors of socialist development are working with vigor to further raise their combat strength. This is in line with the role of our party as the inspirer of action by the masses, as the political steering mechanism of society. In this the proven principle "where a comrade is, so, too, is the party" is being repeatedly taken as the yardstick. The political activity of the communists has increased, and this strengthens our party's links with the masses and adds to its appeal to the whole people.

At the Central Committee Secretariat's discussions with the first secretaries of the kreis committees on 17 February 1978, our party's tasks were expounded at length regarding further realization of the decisions of the ninth party congress in the domestic and foreign policy field. As the evaluation in the bezirk committees, kreis committees and basic organizations shows, our comrades understand them as long-term guidelines from which conclusions must be drawn for their daily work.

Valuable aid was provided by the kreis aktiv meetings in which over 106,000 party members took part. Another 300,000 took part in seminars to acquaint themselves with the answers given during the discussion with the kreis first secretaries to basic and topical questions on our policies. At over 75,000 meetings of members of basic organizations in which 1.85 million members and candidates members took part, 620,000 comrades spoke. They submitted a multitude of constructive ideas, proposals and pointers, and explained how they themselves are tackling the realization of the tasks.

The leading bezirk party organs stepped up their endeavors to support the basic organizations, and it is precisely from these meetings which stimuli derive to a great extent, for the daily implementation of our party's decisions, and it is their action, their example which has a mobilizing affect on the other working people. In many members' meetings it was urged, and rightly so, that not only should measures be adopted for future work, but also appropriate attention should be paid continually to their implementation and control.

In this context I would like to say a few words about the unpaid party officials, especially the approximately 7,000 unpaid party secretaries. Their readiness to do the job, their devoted work in the party's interest in addition to their obligations at work deserve much note. The success of the party leadership's collective activity depends to a considerable degree on the personality of the party secretary, his ability and knowledge, his behavior and his relations of trust with other party members, with other working people in his sector. The atmosphere in the basic organization and the results of its work are strongly influenced by this. For this reason it is very important to provide good support and direction for the party secretary, to listen to his advice and not to waste his time.

The Politburo received a report from the Gera Bezirk Committee regarding evaluation of the Central Committee Secretariat's discussion with the first secretaries of the kreis committees. Overall an impressive picture emerged from this--and we find it is the same in other bezirks too. We find that work is going on with circumspection, vigor and initiative in order to realize the guidelines submitted at this discussion. The progress made in leadership activity in the most varied of fields is undeniable.

Two things stood out in the report from the Gera Bezirk leadership. The first was the need for all members and candidate members to tap even more thoroughly the theoretical content of the tasks, for them to pay great attention to political conversation with the working people so that the overall social context is fully understood and is converted into readiness to work for the fulfillment of the major task. Second, it should become a principle of leadership activity to guide every enterprise to fulfill the plan in an all-round manner from one 10-day period to the next, from one month to the next. There already exists a very broad movement here. The Politburo stresses in its comment the need to utilize the manifold experiences occurring in socialist competition in an even more extensive fashion for preparing for the 30th anniversary of our republic.

We believe it to be useful for the kreis committees--with the aid of the bezirk committee--to elaborate on the basis of accurate analysis political leadership concepts for decisive social sectors. Proceeding from this it will be possible to provide the basic organizations with concrete tasks and clear aims.

The Merseburg Kreis Committee reported to the Central Committee Secretariat on results and experiences in implementing our social policy program. In this kreis industrial goods production since the eighth party congress rose twofold and labor productivity to 183 percent. The rapid economic growth is reflected in the social progress made. Thus in this period the budget volume rose to over 200 percent and the expenditure and outlays for social funds rose 2.5-fold.

Since the eighth party congress, living conditions have been improved for 17,000 citizens. With an expenditure of M6.3 million important departments of the kreis hospital and two plant health centers were reconstructed, modernized and renewed. Credit totaling M20.4 million was granted to 3,965 young married couples. Considerable results were achieved in improving working conditions and the care of workers.

In connection with the report from the Merseburg Kreis Directorate, the Central Committee Secretariat drew attention in particular to strengthening the understanding of all workers, by means of political and ideological work on the part of the kreis directorates and basic organizations, of the fact that the prerequisites for the scheduled implementation of the social policy program can only be created by a further performance increase in our economy. It promised outstanding achievements at work by workers of many plants in socialist competition in honor of the GDR's 30th anniversary. The significance of cooperation among the combines and enterprises was stressed with regard to territorial rationalization.

Dear Comrades! At the ninth party congress we explained why the further shaping of the advanced socialist society makes growing demands on the party's theoretical work. Thus it is important always to evaluate the deep-rooted political, economic, social and intellectual-cultural changes in this process in the light of Marxist-Leninist theory, to respond to the new questions of life and to draw conclusions from this for further progress.

Our party has been able to solve successfully the tasks of the socialist revolution in the GDR and to determine its prospects correctly because at all times it attributed the greatest importance to theoretical work. It has always acted in Lenin's spirit: that there is no revolutionary practice without revolutionary theory. We have therefore applied Marxism-Leninism to our conditions and are aiming to equip all communists with his ideas and our party's policy, which is based on them.

In our overall policy, we proceed from the basis of the principal, scientifically based positions of Marxism-Leninism. We are building our new world of socialism according to secure scientific knowledge directed toward the future with the great experiences of the struggle of the working class. We will always implement in this respect a policy which is close to life and linked with the masses. Utopian wishful thinking is just as alien to us as being onesidely oriented to purely pragmatic solutions.

The implementation of the decisions of the ninth party congress requires more comprehensive Marxist-Leninist knowledge, a deeper penetration into the strategy and tactics of the party. It requires revolutionary spirit and revolutionary discipline. Accordingly, the Central Committee Secretariat has made decisions with regard to Marxist-Leninist educational work. They once again show that the core of party work is its ideological work. Let me mention the decisions of 25 January 1978 on the substance and organization of work for continuing the party academic year, on the long-term instruction and further training of secretaries of the SED basic organizations, as well as for the party's lecture cycles by bezirk and kreis directorates for leading cadres from 5 April 1978. Also included are the measures to support the FDJ directors in directing the 1978-79 study year and to support the "FDJ GDR 30 scheme."

It is important to encourage the great openmindedness of party members with regard to ideological issues of our time and to take even more advantage of the wealth of ideas in discussion for the solution of specific tasks. We regard it as especially important that the trusting atmosphere in all circles and seminars is deepened so that the comrades speak openly on all issues concerning them, on the results and tasks of the basic organizations and on the political work of individual communists. We include in this the further development of their fighting attitude toward ideological questions of the class differences between socialism and capitalism.

Following the meeting of the Central Committee Secretariat with the first secretaries of the kreis directorates, the efforts in many party organizations have become noticeably stronger to turn completely to the masses in political-ideological work. It is well understood how important it is to explain to all citizens the dialectics of our domestic and foreign policy in such a way that they can always be guided correctly in the class battles of our time. The deeper people penetrate into the essence and strategy of our policy and the better informed and involved they are, the greater their awareness of responsibility in work and government. In this respect, the trusting solidarity between party and people becomes closer and closer.

If during the past few months many party directorates have made great efforts to increase the comrades' readiness and capability, and constantly, on their own initiative, to hold political discussion with the workers, then we regard this as aspects of implementing the Politburo decision of last year on mass political work. That every comrade actively represents the policy and ideology of the party where he lives and works remains a pivot of leadership activity at all party directorates. At the same time it is important to equip the comrades with the necessary information and arguments. As reported from the bezirke and kreis, considerable role in this respect is played by internal party information and the monthly "Was and Wie" leaflet.

Our socialist social system provides all citizens with scope for creative development and needs their active cooperation. We must be guided by this again and again in our work among the masses in particular. Above all we must attach greater value to political discussion with those citizens whose attitude to socialism is still not consolidated sufficiently.

Experience shows that we need genuine exchanges of ideas and views and should not let ourselves be restricted to forms which allow little scope for discussion.

Finally it must be stressed once more how important it is for the party, state and economic officials to live up to their responsibility in political work among the masses, and for the party organizations to influence matters in this respect. The report delivered to the Central Committee Secretariat by the Eisenach Kreis Committee regarding implementation of the Politburo decision of 18 May 1977 emphatically confirmed all these experiences. To provide good information to the working people about the link between their work and the tasks of the overall national economy, to reply at all times to topical political questions, to respond conscientiously to suggestions and criticisms--this is of great importance for the atmosphere in the work collectives and promotes the relationship of trust with the party.

The press, television and radio are making a valuable contribution to the evaluation of the Central Committee Secretariat's discussion with the Kreis first secretaries. Worthy of special mention are the basic articles in NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in which responsible party members in the most varying social fields were given the chance to speak. We consider very useful the actions by the party's Bezirk papers and other press organs which serve in the main the exchange of social experiences and in which the working people themselves speak. This also holds true for the television program "Aktuelle Kamera" and numerous radio programs.

Many social forces are playing an active role in enriching the intellectual life in our republic, in satisfying the people's growing need for knowledge and insight. Thus in a report to the Central Committee Secretariat the Presidium of Urania was able to point to a significant upsurge in its popular science work. Leading representatives of politics, science and culture reach a public running into the millions.

Dear comrades! An important event in the life of our party and of the whole people is the publication of the outline "History of the SED." As all sides have noted, we thus have a history book which is so interesting that the demand cannot immediately be satisfied. This demonstrates once more that the intellectual demands and requirements of our people are continually growing. Precisely at the present moment in time the knowledge of the historical path which the party has traversed courageously, sure of its aims and ready to make sacrifices, is gaining even more in value for its creative activity for the well-being of our country and also for the GDR's contribution to the international class struggle.

With the aim of utilizing in an all-round manner the historic lessons of our political struggle in order to master the present and future, the Central Committee Secretariat has decided on "measures for studying and propagating the outline 'History of the SED.'" This is of great importance for the party's theoretical and ideological work, for its political activity among the masses. The conviction of the correctness of our party's policies will be consolidated among all the working people if the whole truth of our social development, the successes and struggles, the triumphs over the counterrevolutionary machinations of the enemies of socialism are related in a lively and gripping manner.

The young generation will do greater justice to its binding assignment the more it acquires--following the example of the revolutionary fighters of the party of the working class--such characteristics as class-based behavior, steadfast stance, disciplined and initiative-rich action for our common socialist cause.

Study of the "History of the SED" will help youth in particular to understand even better the profound social and class content of the struggles of our time and to take a more active part in them--that is, to take their destinies into their own hands in an even more conscious manner.

The certainty that the decisions of the ninth party congress are being implemented successfully is based to no small extent on knowledge of the path traversed dotted with many struggles, on realization of the historical context and experiences. Proceeding from this we have adopted "measures for preparing and implementing the 60th anniversary of the German November revolution" and "measures for preparing and implementing the 60th anniversary of the founding of the KPD." Both anniversaries are to be arranged and celebrated in a worthy manner in preparation for the 30th anniversary of the GDR. The Politburo decision on the "1979 national youth festival of the GDR" will help our Free German Youth to make another important contribution to strengthening workers' and peasants' power in the GDR.

It was and remains decisive for our party that the development of socialism can only be the work of the whole people. That is why the Politburo has always devoted great attention to the consolidation of political--moral unity in the people. We can establish that the parties and mass organizations united in the GDR National Front are working together on a more and more trusting and fruitful basis--right up to the kreise and parishes. Our friendly parties, the CDU, the Liberal Democratic Party, the National Democratic Party and the Democratic Peasant Party are making a valuable contribution, which we highly regard, toward shaping the advanced socialist society.

The meeting of the National Council of the GDR National Front this January gave many impulses to life in the housing areas. Cooperation between the committee of the National Front, the local people's representations, enterprises, cooperatives and cultural institutions has become more effective. It opens up even more opportunities for the citizens to take an active part in our socialist democracy and strengthens the feeling of working for the social whole.

In the National Front's competition in honor of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the GDR, more than 2 million citizens, including hundreds of thousands of young people, took part during the first few months of this year in the large-scale operations to beautify their towns and parishes. In addition, during the first quarter the greatest individual achievements hitherto were made in preserving living space. In all these good deeds, which were accomplished voluntarily and in people's spare time, we see convincing proof of the growing awareness of responsibility on the part of the citizens.

On 6 March 1978 I met with the Executive of the Conference of Evangelical Church Boards in the GDR, led by its chairman, Bishop Dr. D. Schoenherr. During this meeting, I expressed my praise for the churches' involvement in peace, their stand for detente and understanding among peoples, as well as their humanitarian aid to those in need and those peoples fighting for liberation. It was pointed out that the churches, as churches in socialism, today and in the future have many opportunities for working toward the implementation of the deeply humanitarian goals of our policy for the benefit of the people. In accordance with my oath of office as chairman of the State Council, I underlined that our socialist society offers security and protection to every citizen regardless of age or sex, ideology or religious beliefs. It gives him a clear perspective and the opportunity to help shape the future, to develop fully his capabilities and talents, his personality. The Conference of Evangelical Church Boards in the GDR welcomed in a statement the results of the discussion as an important step in the development of the relationship between state and church. The results of the meeting are highly regarded by the Politburo.

The Central Committee Secretariat has analyzed the development of the SED membership movement in 1977. At present the party has 2,088,365 members and candidate members. The way the party is deeply anchored in the working class is shown by the fact that last year 42,161 candidate members were accepted who are directly involved in production. Also of importance for the party's future is the rise by 18,457 in the number of young comrades up to the age of 30.

In economic branches, which are of particular importance for fulfillment of the major task, the party's organizational influence was stepped up. This applies to electronics-electrical engineering, the construction industry, the building materials industry and the textile industry.

The development of the proportion of workers from material production in the party's social composition is being continued purposefully. Candidate members from among the ranks of members of the intelligentsia, students and school pupils are to be accepted above all in those major areas where the party's influence is to be strengthened. This also holds true for acceptance of cooperative farmers into our party. The free German youth--as a combat reserve for our party--has great responsibility in solving these tasks.

The Central Committee Secretariat reviewed an analysis of the composition of the party apparatus of the bezirk and kreis directorates and the qualifications of its members. It can be said with every justification that the party apparatus has proved itself a tested collective of experienced professional revolutionaries who fulfill their tasks with a high degree of readiness and awareness of responsibility.

The more purposeful and systematic qualifying of the comrades has led to a high level of political and practical training. At present 96.8 percent of the members and all secretaries of the bezirk and kreis directorates have completed a university or vocational training course. The continuity of our cadre development is also reflected in the fact that more than 50 percent of the first secretaries of the kreis directorates have held this office for 8 years or more.

At today's Central Committee meeting, we have to decide on the preparations for and holding of the 1978-79 party elections. They will be in the spirit of the preparations for the 30th anniversary of the GDR. We regard the basic aim to be to raise further the SED's leading role and to put every party collective, every communist in the position of conscientiously carrying out the decisions of the ninth party congress. They should be enabled to explain our policy first hand, to strengthen the solidarity with the masses and to encourage the sort of political attitudes which serve the all-round strengthening of the GDR and leave no scope for hostile views. By means of good political leadership and work organizations, all creative initiatives and reserves should be mobilized along the path of intensification, especially of science and technology, in order to fulfill the goals of the economic plan.

Dear comrades! The Politburo is certain that the eighth Central Committee meeting will be a good help to our party in further implementing the tasks set by the ninth party congress.

HERMANN PROMOTED TO FULL MEMBER OF SED POLITBURO

ID251852 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1805 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Berlin--The SED Central Committee met in Berlin on 24 and 25 May 1978.

At the start of the session the Central Committee honored the memory of its deceased members: Comrades Werner Lamberz, Paul Markowski and Hans Rodenberg.

Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee delivered the Politburo report.

During the discussion 26 comrades spoke from the rostrum.

The Central Committee endorsed the Politburo report.

On the basis of the party statute report (point 51A, 56 and 64) and of the Central Committee election rules, it decided to hold the report back and new election of the leaderships of basic organizations, kreis and bezirk organization from 1 November 1978 to 18 February 1979.

The Central Committee unanimously elected Comrade Joachim Hermann, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee, to member of the Politburo and the Central Committee, and Central Committee candidate members Comrades Herbert Haebler, Werner Scheler, Horst Stechbarth, Irene Tamme and Hans-Juergen Truemper, to Central Committee members.

It complied with the wish of Comrade Hanni Glaeser to be released from the function of member of the Central Party Control Commission for health reasons and appointed Edith Gehre, candidate member of the Central Party Control Commission, as member of the Central Party Control Commission.

SINDERMANN WELCOMES AUSTRIAN ASSEMBLY DELEGATION

ID251644Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1450 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Berlin--A delegation of Austrian deputies arrived in Berlin on Thursday for a several-day visit. The delegation, led by Anton Benya, President of the National Council, had been invited by Horst Sindermann, President of the GDR People's Chamber, who welcomed the guest cordially at Berlin-Schoenefeld Airport.

Gives Reception

ID252300Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1927 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Berlin--On Thursday evening Horst Sindermann, President of the GDR People's Chamber, gave a reception at the People's Chamber building in honor of the delegation of deputies from the Austrian Republic who are currently visiting the capital of the GDR. His invitation was also accepted by members of Presidium and People's Chamber groups, committee members and other deputies and figures from public life.

II. 26 May 78

E 28

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

SED GREETES CYPRIOT PROGRESSIVE PARTY CONGRESS

LD251510Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0304 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Berlin--The SED Central Committee has sent greetings to the 14th congress of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL) which begins on Thursday. In the telegram, signed by General Secretary Erich Honecker, the Central Committee stresses its solidarity with the Cypriot communists and all progressive forces in the country in their struggle for a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus problem.

"Our party fully agrees with the AKEL that such a solution is only possible on the basis of fully respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus as well as of the withdrawal of all Turkish and other foreign troops and the removal of their military bases," the message states.

Furthermore, the telegram draws attention to the joint struggle of the SED and AKEL for peace and security and against the arms race stirred up by the imperialists. Both parties regarded "the struggle for the consolidation of the unity of the communist movement on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism...as an important prerequisite for a successful struggle" the message stresses.

ADN REPORTS ON WALDE MEETING WITH AKEL LEADER

LD251458Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1314 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Nicosia--On Thursday, Ezekias Papaioannou, general secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL), received the SED delegation in Nicosia attending the 14th AKEL Congress. The head of the delegation, Werner Walde, SED Central Committee candidate member conveyed the greetings of Erich Honecker, SED general secretary, which were cordially reciprocated by Ezekias Papaioannou.

Papaioannou briefed the delegation on topical issues of the party's struggle for a peaceful and democratic solution to the Cyprus problem and their efforts to consolidate the front of all patriotic and anti-imperialist forces. Both sides stressed the necessity of supporting all progressive forces in their efforts for disarmament and they endorsed the two parties' agreement on basic issues.

MUECKENBERGER HEADS DELEGATION TO MINSK CONGRESS

LD241340Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0007 GMT 24 May 78 LD

[Text] Minsk--The Eighth Congress of the International Federation of Resistance Fighters begins in Minsk this Wednesday. Taking part are over 300 delegates from 60 organizations of former resistance fighters, deportees and victims of fascism from 25 countries. The GDR delegation is led by Erich Mueckenberger, SED Central Committee Politburo member. Before the ceremonial opening of the congress, the GDR delegation laid a wreath in front of the house where Fritz Schmenkel was condemned to death by the fascists. Fritz Schmenkel was given a posthumous award of Hero of the Soviet Union for his outstanding deeds in the ranks of the Soviet partisans.

II. 26 May 78

E 29

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Conveys GDR Greetings

LD251052Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2217 GMT 24 May 78 LD

[Summary] Minsk--The Eighth International Federation of Resistance Fighters [FIR] Congress opened in Minsk on Wednesday. Taking part are 350 delegates from more than 60 organizations of former resistance fighters from 25 countries.

"The greetings of Erich Honecker and Willi Stoph as well as all GDR antifascist resistance fighters were conveyed by Erich Mueckenberger. 'Our organization, FIR, was born in the fight against fascism,' he said. 'It is sworn to this fight until it is completely eliminated, no matter where or in what form it reappears.'

"Erich Mueckenberger stressed that the most urgent task at present was to end the arms race. All forces must be united in order to put a stop to this development which threatens all of mankind.

"Referring to the increasing neofascist provocations, the head of the GDR delegation stated: We are naturally following with great concern and attention the development in this field in the FRG where even the traditional SS associations and neo-Nazi organizations, revanchists and militarists can rally together, unimpeded by the authorities.

"This development which was encouraged on an all-round basis by certain circles was more than a harmless side issue in the FRG's political life. Moreover, it has already encompassed many other countries."

FDGB-LAO TRADE UNION TALKS HELD, ACCORD SIGNED

LD220346Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0801 GMT 21 May 78 LD

[Text] Vientiane (ADN correspondent)--An agreement on the further development of friendship and cooperation between the FDGB National Executive Committee and the Central Council of the Trade Unions of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos has been signed in Vientiane. The document provides for the increased exchange of experiences and views concerning trade union activities in the two countries as well as for solidarity support of the Lao trade unions by the FDGB. Thus, the FDGB will train cadres for the Lao organization.

The first trade union delegation of the GDR headed by Horst Heintze, member of the Presidium and secretary of the FDGB National Executive Committee, ended its 5-day friendship visit to the PDR of Laos on Saturday. During its stay it familiarized itself at the Central Council of Lao Trade Unions as well as in enterprises and training establishments with the great achievements of the Lao workers in establishing the first foundations of socialism. During a most cordial meeting with Minister Sanan Soutnichak, president of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions, Horst Heintze affirmed that the working class and all workers of the GDR would continue to support in solidarity the Lao fraternal people.

The two sides agreed that a delegation of the Lao trade union leadership will visit the GDR this year as guest of the FDGB National Executive Committee.

II. 26 May 78

E 30

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

LEUSCHNER COMMENTS ON MONDALE SPEECH AT UN

LD252316Y East Berlin Voice of the GDR Domestic Service in German 1705 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] The UN General Assembly special session on disarmament continues in New York today. One of the first speakers was U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale during the late hours of yesterday who explained his country's positions. Quenter Leuschner comments:

The agenda decreed that the representative of one of two great powers, Vice President Mondale, the representative of the United States, was among the first speakers to address the session. Although all states, irrespective of size, carry responsibility for the ending of the arms race, it is only natural that attention in New York should focus on the attitude of those powers which, if only because of their military power, shoulder special responsibility concerning mankind's most important objective. To this extent there was keen interest in the speech and the proposals submitted by the U.S. representative.

Vice President Mondale said that the United States is striving toward the early conclusion of a new SALT agreement and is also expecting a treaty concerning the banning of nuclear tests.

However, this was the most specific part of his speech concerning the conference's objective, which is to give new impetus to the struggle for ending the arms race. The speech contained no new proposals, Western news agencies reported. Furthermore, it contained not a single word concerning the U.S. intention about the neutron weapon. Instead, DPA wrote, the U.S. politician had underlined expressly that the security interests of the West must not be constricted through the worldwide disarmament endeavors. In this connection he justified the fact that the NATO states, at a summit conference during the UN General Assembly special session, intend to conclude a long-term arms program which is more likely to stimulate the arms race than to end it.

Finally, the speech contained attacks on the defense policy of the socialist countries which, in conformity with the anti-Soviet campaign which has been underway for weeks, are to be planned for the arms race. First this was an attempt to divert attention from the fact that the United States for its part did not come to this special session with a concrete political disarmament program. (?It is however, not surprising) that AP should write in discussing the reaction to the speech of the U.S. representative.

Politicians of the Third World dissociated themselves from the U.S. position or were disappointed by it. That was the general impression left by the U.S. representative. Hence the proposals by the other great power are now eagerly awaited. Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko will speak at the special session on Friday morning.

SCHUERER ATTENDS ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION

LD251633Y East Berlin Voice of the GDR Domestic Service in German 1500 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Argentine Ambassador Ruben Antonia Vela today held a reception in Berlin on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Argentina. His invitation was accepted by, among others, Gerhard Schuerer, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and by Dr Manfred Gerlach, deputy chairman of the Council of State.

BISHOP THEISSING, SCHWERIN BEZIRK CHAIRMAN HOLD TALKS

AU191553Y East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 13-17 May 78 p 2 AU

[ADN dispatch from Schwerin: "Meeting in Schwerin With the Catholic Bishop: Talks With the Bezirk Council Chairman"]

[Summary] "A talk took place on 12 May 1978 between the chairman of the Schwerin District Council, Rudi Fleck, at his invitation, and Catholic Bishop Heinrich Theissing, apostolic administrator for Mecklenburg."

Proceeding from the decisions of the Ninth SED Congress, the council chairman explained the tasks and problems of social development in Schwerin Bezirk, stressing the growing responsibility of the local peoples' representations and their organs in solving national economic tasks.

"Referring to the talks between Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and GDR State Council chairman, and the executive of the conference of evangelical church leaderships in the GDR, the council chairman stressed the equality of rights and equal respect as well as the unreserved involvement in the shaping of the developed socialist society also in respect to the citizens of the Catholic faith.

"Bishop Theissing expressed his appreciation for the state's efforts to continuously develop the material and spiritual-cultural standard of living of the citizens.

"He stated in this context that the citizens of the Catholic faith in the GDR feel corresponsable for everything and stressed that the Catholic church's cooperation with the state organs is based on mutual understanding and good will."

The council chairman pointed out the concern for the activities of the forces hostile to detente and the need to undertake effective steps toward detente and against the manufacture of the neutron bomb by the United States.

"Bishop Theissing underscored the need for joint efforts for the preservation of peace regardless of differences in the concept of the world. He stressed that the final Helsinki act provides a good basis for this and that the Catholic church is a good partner in the concern for peace. Referring to statements by the pope, he pointed out that weapons of mass destruction must be rejected as tools of inhumanity. He stressed the urgency to achieve real steps on the road to disarmament.

"The interlocutors also discussed questions and assessed results already achieved in solving them as a token of the efforts for mutual understanding. They displayed the readiness to further deepen the relations between the state organs and the Catholic Church in Schwerin Bezirk on the basis of the GDR constitution and to fashion them in a trustful manner.

"Also participating in the talks were Moritz Klemt, deputy chairman for the interior, and General Vicar Josef Michelfeit."

FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA MEETS WITH CYRUS VANCE IN NEW YORK

ID260044Y Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] There was a meeting between the Hungarian and American foreign ministers in New York. Frigyes Puja and Cyrus Vance discussed primarily bilateral relations, but also spoke about various international questions.

MONDALE ADDRESS TO UN DISARMAMENT SESSION CRITICIZED

ID260550Y Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] The debate continued today at the special disarmament session of the UN General Assembly. The speech made last night by U.S. Vice President Mondale was characterized by a strong anti-Soviet attitude. The U.S. statesman said that the world's military expenditure reached \$400 billion and that 26 million people were serving in the various armed forces. When outlining the horrors of the arms race, the speaker consistently ignored the leading role played by the U.S. military-industrial complex in manufacturing and selling arms. Mondale outlined point by point the ideas of the United States concerning disarmament. He emphasized the reduction in strategic nuclear arms and depicted the Soviet missile potential in dramatic terms--without, however, mentioning the U.S. cruise missiles or the neutron weapon. According to observers, although Mondale's speech was delivered at the United Nations, it was addressed to the participants of the NATO summit due to open in Washington next week.

LEADERS SEND BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO TITO

ID251414Y Budapest MTI in English 1013 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, May 24 (MTI)--Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Central Committee, and Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, expressed in a telegram their good wishes to Josip Broz Tito, president of the Yugoslav Communist League and of the Yugoslav Socialist Federal Republic, on the occasion of his 86th birthday.

SRV OFFICIAL REJECTS ACCUSATIONS ON OVERSEAS CHINESE

ID251834Y Budapest MTI in English 1728 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, May 25, (MTI)--The accusations laid down in a Chinese statement in connection with citizens of Chinese origin living in Vietnam were resolutely rejected in Hanoi on Thursday, reports MTI's Hanoi correspondent Sandor Gyori. Authoritative political sources in Hanoi told the MTI correspondent that the Chinese statements had been without foundation. As for the discrimination, persecution and alleged reprisal of Vietnamese citizens, the statement made on May 4 by Xuan Thuy, secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, defines accurately the actual background to the problem and Vietnam's position. The Vietnamese politician expressed unambiguously that the Vietnamese Socialist Republic had always been observing the agreement between the two parties' Central Committees on the case of Vietnamese citizens. Outlining the stand of the Vietnamese Government, the secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party pointed out that his country was consistently seeking to strengthen solidarity and fraternal cooperation with that neighbouring socialist state. Xuan Thuy also told that citizens of Chinese origin may legally leave the country--all they need is permission from the authorities.

LAZAR RECEIVES INDIAN INDUSTRIES MINISTER

LD251826Y Budapest MTI in English 1725 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, May 25 (MTI)--Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, received in his office George Fernandes, Indian minister of industry, on Thursday. The Indian minister has been in Budapest to attend the session of the Hungarian-Indian Joint Commission for Economic and Technical-Scientific Cooperation where he headed the Indian delegation. Also present at the meeting which took place in a cordial atmosphere was Hungarian Light Industry Minister Mrs. Janos Keseru, co-chairman of the joint commission. The meeting was attended also by Arun Kanti Das, Indian ambassador to Hungary.

Protocol Signed Following Talks

LD251836Y Budapest MTI in English 1730 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, May 25 (MTI)--The 3rd session of the Joint Hungarian-Indian Committee for Economic and Technical-Scientific Cooperation held between May 22-25 was concluded in Budapest on Thursday. The two co-chairmen of the joint committee, Minister for Light Industry Mrs. Janos Keseru and George Fernandes, minister of industry of the Indian federal government, signed the protocol on the talks.

The protocol lays down that according to the negotiating partners the economic cooperation and trade between India and Hungary were developing favourably. Partnership yielded favourable results especially in alum-earth and aluminium production, in manufacturing machinery for the lamp industry, in the telecommunication industry, in the supply of machines used in water power plants and in the production of basic pharmaceuticals.

It was declared at the talks that in spite of the existing reserves in trade the two countries' relations could not be substantially increased merely by trading methods; cooperation in industry was necessary and the enterprises concerned should be encouraged to make joint ventures on third markets.

In the course of the negotiations a lot of new fields for partnership have been explored and discussed, including, for instance, the opportunity of Hungary's participation in the processing of tungsten ore and ilmenite mined in India. Agreement was reached on extending lamp production to the manufacture of machines necessary for fluorescent lamps. It is planned to arrange the joint manufacture in India of articulated buses. To improve further the successful relations established in the pharmaceutical industry, the Hungarian side is to provide India with more production technologies of medicines. Hungary is prepared to assist the realization of development projects in India's farming in case of vegetable and fruit growing and the processing of the goods.

Under long-term agreement India is ready to take part in the manufacture of goods--in the interest of meeting the demands of Hungary--which are not produced in Hungary any more as a result of the change in Hungary of the pattern of industry or because they are raw-material or labour intensive products. During his stay in Hungary, the Indian minister had discussions on improving the two countries' economic and trade links with Foreign Trade Minister Dr. Jozsef Biro and with Dr. Pal Romany, minister of agriculture and food.

KADAR, MAROTHY VISIT WFDY HEADQUARTERS 25 MAY

LD260200Y Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Janos Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, today visited WFDY headquarters. He was accompanied by Laszlo Marothy, member of the Politburo and first secretary of the KISZ Central Committee. The guests were received outside WFDY headquarters by Ernesto Ottone, Chilean president of the WFDY, Miklos Barabas, general secretary, and officials of the federation. The first secretary of the Central Committee was briefed by Miklos Barabas on the relations between the WFDY and KISZ, Hungarian help given to the federation, as well as the work of the Hungarian section.

PDY DEFENSE MINISTER BEGINS PROVINCIAL TOUR

LD251318Y Budapest MTI in English 1034 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, May 24 (MTI)--The Yemeni military delegation led by Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the United Political Organization Central Committee of the Yemeni People's Democratic Republic National Front and minister of defence, accompanied by Colonel-General Lajos Czinege, Hungarian minister of defence, went on a tour of the country on Wednesday. The programme started in Kecskemet, east Hungary, at the headquarters of the county party committee where the military delegation were received by the party and council leaders of County Bacs-Kiskun.

The military delegation led by the Yemeni defence minister visited also an air unit where they got acquainted with the training of soldiers as well as with sports and cultural activities. Thereafter a garrison military meeting took place at which an address was made by Defence Minister Lajos Czinege. He spoke of the importance of the continued development of the fraternal cooperation that had developed between the two countries' revolutionary parties, people and armed forces. Then the Yemeni defence minister Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar made a speech. He outlined the liberation struggle, the fight against counterrevolutionary forces assaulting the people's power and the significance of the cooperation between fraternal countries.

The Yemeni military delegation is to continue the tour of County Bacs-Kiskun on Thursday.

MAGYAR HIRLAP ON FRANCE'S ROLE OF GENDARME IN AFRICA

AU231655Y Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 21 May 78 p 2 AU

[Viktor Palfi article: "International Division of Labor; in the Footsteps of Giscardus Africanus"]

[Text] Foreign legionaries, the last (notorious) Mohicans of colonial romanticism, have again been deployed in another region of Africa, this time in Zaire's rebellious Shaba province. They are not here for the first time either, since they were in the same area last year as well. But, to be sure, a French military presence has become almost a routine matter in at least half a dozen African countries in recent years. Under a NATO "division of labor," France was given the special African assignment--namely, to play the role of gendarme, in conformity with the Western military bloc's interests, on the black continent. And it is a fact that France is very keen on fulfilling this task.

During his latest African tour, French President Giscard d'Estaing declared in a speech in Abidjan that "Africa belongs to the Africans." The Algerian daily EL MUJAHID noted in this connection that the French president uses this bombastic slogan in an entirely peculiar way, since he said it in the capital of a country--the Ivory Coast--where French troops are stationed and feel quite at home. The Algerian paper, alluding to Scipio, the Roman general of the Punic Wars, therefore renamed the French president Giscardus Africanus. French troops also feel at home in several other officially independent African countries that used to belong to the colonial empire, just as if their status had not changed at all since colonial times in these countries. They are supporting the corrupt regimes, directed by remote control from Paris, that rule these countries. In addition to the two countries noted above, units of various sizes are stationed in Chad, Senegal, Upper Volta, Gabon, Djibouti and Mauritania. French bases are operating on several African islands, including Reunion and Majota, which is part of the Comoro Islands. And this is done with the justification that these forces are defending democratic (!) regimes against "internal subversion and intervention from without." This reminds one of the classical stratagem of the culprit shouting "stop thief" to disguise himself. Senegal, one of the French client states, is one of the few African countries that still has not recognized Angola. Senegalese President Senghor justifies this by "the presence of foreign troops in Angola." It does not bother him that a French garrison is stationed in his country, from which one can only conclude that the Senegalese president does not consider these troops foreigners. French intervention in the young African countries' domestic affairs and in their conflicts among each other has become practically a constant political factor on the continent.

French intervention in the conflict over western Sahara and the silent war waged by its Foreign Legion mercenaries in Chad against the liberation movement combating the military dictatorship are generally known. The strategic significance of the country located in the heart of the continent lies in the fact that it links black and Arab Africa almost like a bridge. Considerable mineral deposits enhance its attraction: oil, copper, tin, iron ore and diamond deposits are there to be exploited, which French capital, considering its former colony as its own preserve, would be glad to undertake.

In Chad, signs of a disintegration already began to show in 1965, 5 years after it attained formal independence, when the population of a province mutinied against excessively "pushy" tax collectors of the government. Tombalbaye, the country's president at the time, turned to Paris for help, which ordered its troops in Chad to support the government. With various interruptions, this internal conflict has been continuing to this day. A national liberation front of Chad (FROLINAT) has been established. It has rallied the forces opposing the government and, with partisan acts, has embittered the life of the regime and its French patrons. The objectives of the front, which unites mainly the Moslem population, includes the introduction of a democratic system of administration, the discontinuation of French patronage, and the liquidation of discrimination against the Arab population.

The basic pattern of the internal conflict has not been changed at all by the fact that in 1975 Gen Felix Mallum came to power through a military coup. Although by promising various reforms he has tried to disarm FROLINAT, the main body of the far-from-united organization has decided to continue the struggle. The internal conflict has assumed an international dimension by the fact that Chad's northern neighbor, Libya, the front's main supporter, in addition to pan-Arab solidarity, disapproves of a strengthening of Paris' neocolonialist positions in its neighborhood. Representatives of the Chadian Government and FROLINAT met at a conference of reconciliation in Libya 2 months ago. The communiqué issued subsequently revealed that the parties have reached an agreement on conditions for ending the civil war. However, there must have been something wrong with the implementation of the agreement, because fighting has again flared up in the country. Libyan Premier Jallud has blamed Paris for this.

Tripoli is now striving to convene another Chad peace conference. The present position of the Chadian Government is shakier than ever. Despite French fighter-bombers sent to its aid, it has suffered grave setbacks; half of its army of 4,000 soldiers has surrendered to the insurgents, who came dangerously close to the capital, N'djamena. The mass base of the front has been expanded with the addition of non-Moslem members of the population.

The issue could cause a great loss of prestige for Paris, because the example of Chad could make other African clients of France have second thoughts. Disarming such fears was probably the objective of President Giscard d'Estaing's remark the other day at a banquet honoring Senegalese President Senghor to the effect that "France cannot remain indifferent when the security of some of its friends is endangered." Thus, Paris is not prepared to learn the lessons of the Chadian adventure. Nothing shows this better than the fact that it is becoming involved in another adventure in Zaire, a much more dangerous one this time, because Zaire is a bite that could easily stick in one's throat. It is baffling that a state leadership with the experiences of Vietnam, Suez and Algeria does not realize this.

NEPSZABADSAG NOTES LAG IN PLANTING, FIELDWORK

Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 17 May 78 p 1 WA

[Text] The frosty mornings of last week have been superseded by rainy weather, which benefits the development of fall and spring-sown crops in nearly all parts of the country. However, much water has collected in low-lying regions with close-packed soil. Fortunately there is relatively little such land in the country. Surveys reveal that ground water covers 6,500 hectares sown in fall and spring, 5,500 hectares of unsown land, and 14,000 hectares of meadow and pasture.

This area, taken as a whole, is less extensive than that normally covered with ground water in May. Although good for crops, this precipitation immobilizes sowing equipment. Consequently, there has been scarcely any progress in the sowing of late spring crops such as corn, silo corn, sunflower, rice and soya since the middle of last week. Alfalfa mowing has also been delayed. Even where begun, the work had to be discontinued. Both corn and horticultural crops are feeling the lack of warmth. Corn that has already emerged is yellow rather than green. Should the weather turn warm, the plants can still compensate for the lag. The situation in orchards is good: All necessary spraying was completed before the onset of the rain. Frosts have caused somewhat more damage to vineyards than to orchards. Some of the tomato plants that had been set out froze and must be replaced. More precise determination of freeze damage will not be possible until later this week. At any rate it is already certain that the frosts have caused less damage than last year.

BRIEFS

LIVESTOCK INCREASE--According to the 31 March livestock census, the nation's cattle herd now numbers 2.02 million and exceeds that of 1977 by 60,000 head. The TSZs [agricultural producer cooperatives] are raising 46,000 and the state farms, 22,000 more cattle than in March 1977. On the other hand, small producers are raising 8,000 fewer cattle than last year. In the course of a year, the number of sheep has increased by 200,000 and now amounts to 2.26 million. This is due principally to more favorable purchase prices and the farming out of animals for raising. Hog-raising has achieved a state more nearly approximating equilibrium: This is indicated by the fact that there is now a total of 675,000 sows while the number of hogs amounts to 8.24 million. [Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 10 May 78 p 9 WA]

II. 26 May 78

R O M A N I A

H 1

MORE ON CEAUSESCU'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO VIETNAM

Visits Textile Works

AU251604Y Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0945 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] Hanoi, (AGERPRES), 25/5/1978--On May 25, in the morning, Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Elena Ceausescu and the other members of the Romanian party and state delegation were guests to the working collectivity of the Hanoi March 8 textile works.

The distinguished messengers of the Romanian people were accompanied by Le Van Luong, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Vietnam, secretary of the Hanoi Party Committee, and Ha Thi Que, member of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Vietnam, chairman of the Vietnamese Women's Federation.

Tran Huu Du, alternate member of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Vietnam, minister of light industry, the managers of the works, as also the workers of this industrial unit extended a warm reception to the Romanian head of state a warm reception [as received], highlighting that the visit is to them a strong encouragement, an expression of the feelings of friendly solidarity cherished by the working class, by the whole people of Romania.

Appreciating the achievements recorded by the collectivity of this works, Nicolae Ceausescu voiced his conviction that the collaboration between workers of Romania and Vietnam would develop still more.

Attends Friendship Meeting

AU252008Y Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1924 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] Hanoi, AGERPRES, 25/5/1978--A grand meeting took place in Hanoi on May 25 marking the official visit of friendship President Nicolae Ceausescu is paying to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Warmly greeting President Nicolae Ceausescu, the other members of the Romanian delegation, [words indistinct] of the brother Romanian people, Le Van Luong, member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Communist Party of Vietnam, secretary of the Party Committee of the Hanoi City, said that the meeting was a telling expression of the fraternal friendship and solidarity linking the RCP and the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Romanian and Vietnamese peoples.

Next, Le Duan and Nicolae Ceausescu addressed the meeting.

Le Duan Addresses Meeting

AU252034Y Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1956 GMT 25 May 76 AU

[Text] Hanoi, AGERPRES, 25/5/1978--After having referred at length to the Romanian people's achievements, Le Duan said in his speech at the meeting of the Romanian-Vietnamese friendship held in Hanoi that they contributed to strengthening the forces of socialism, peace and security, made Romania be highly appreciated, play an ever more important role in international life.

Le Duan spoke then about the victories of the Vietnamese people in the fight for independence, in reconstructing the country.

The speaker set forth his country's stand on a series of international questions. He reiterated, among others, his country's stand on the peaceful settlement, by negotiations, of the questions concerning the relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea with a view to reestablish friendship between them.

The speaker highlighted that, during the revolutionary fight, for ten years, the fraternal friendship, solidarity and collaboration between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries--Vietnam and Romania--have consolidated and developed [words indistinct] both in the fight for national salvation and in building socialism, the Vietnamese people always enjoying the valuable support and help of the Romanian party, state and brother people.

On concluding his speech, Le Duan said: Through the fine results of the visit of a party and government delegation to Romania and through the documents signed in Bucharest in November 1975, the relations of friendship and collaboration between Vietnam and Romania entered a new stage. We note with satisfaction that since that time till now we have done many things for deepening the solidarity, for developing the manysided collaboration between our two parties, governments and peoples.

The Vietnamese visit of the Romanian party and state delegation led by President Nicolae Ceausescu will certainly mark an important moment in the development of the relations of friendship and collaboration between the two countries. The Communist Party of Vietnam, the government and people of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam will make all efforts so that the fraternal friendship, solidarity and collaboration between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries--Vietnam and Romania--consolidate and develop continuously.

Ceausescu Addresses Meeting

AU252029Y Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1926 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] Hanoi, AGERPRES, 25/5/78--In opening his speech, after having addressed the whole Vietnamese people a fraternal salute of friendship and solidarity and best wishes from the Romanian people, and after having thanked for the warm reception extended to them by the population of Hanoi, President Nicolae Ceausescu referred to the (events) of historic importance which have occurred in the life of the Vietnamese people since his previous visit to Vietnam in 1971. By its valour and abnegation, he stressed, Vietnam has demonstrated once more the truth verified by the whole history of mankind, that a people resolved to defend up to the end its right to be free and master in its own country cannot be brought down to its knees by any force in the world.

Mentioning that in the years of the war against foreign intervention, Romania was steadfastly on the side of the Vietnamese people, manifested full solidarity with its just fight, gave Vietnam its entire material, economic, political and diplomatic support, the Romanian head of state said: The proclamation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was the result of the unflinching will and the fearless fight of the entire Vietnamese nation.

Next, after having congratulated warmly the Vietnamese people for the achievements recorded in attaining the objectives of the new historical stage it is traversing now, President Nicolae Ceausescu spoke to the participants in the meeting about the achievements of the Romanian people in building the multilaterally developed socialist society and Romania's advancing to communism, emphasizing that they are the outcome of the tireless and devoted work of the entire people that unabatedly implements the policy of the CP based on the creative application of the dialectical and historical materialism to the concrete conditions in Romania.

Referring to the Romanian-Vietnamese relations, President Ceausescu emphasized that they witnessed a steadily upward course on the economic, technical, scientific and cultural plane. He stressed with satisfaction that during the talks he had with Le Duan and with other members of the leadership of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] and of the Vietnamese state, it was convenanted to secure a new, ever more vigorous course to bilateral relations, to intensify the economic exchanges and collaboration, cooperation in other domains, as also the exchange of experience.

Approaching questions of international life, President Nicolae Ceausescu said among others: One of the characteristics of the evolution of the present-day international life is the ever stronger assertion of the people's will to put an end to the old imperialist, colonialist and neocolonialist policy of domination and dictate, to become masters of their national riches and of their own destiny, to secure a self-dependent economic and social development. But at the same time we are witness to a sharpening of contradictions in international life as a consequence of the intensifying policy of re-dividing the world into zones of influence and domination. That is why it is necessary, now more than ever before, to strengthen the solidarity and cooperation of the peoples, of all the progressive, anti-imperialist forces for hampering the aggravation of world climate, for asserting a new policy of full equality, of free and independent development of each nation.

Romania firmly militates for the development of relations with all the socialist countries in the spirit of solidarity, mutual esteem and respect. We consider that the surpassing of the divergences among the socialist countries, the promotion of new-type relations, which should be a model of international relations, have today primordial importance for the cause of progress, socialism and peace. In this context, the Romanian president said, I would like to express our deep sorrow at what Le Duan told us about the relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea. As friends and comrades we express our wish and hope that the problems arisen will be solved by direct negotiations between the two parties and states to the end of reestablishing the Vietnamese-Kampuchean solidarity and friendship in the struggle for socialism and peace.

Romania also develops its collaboration and solidarity with the developing countries, with the non-aligned states, with all the countries that have stepped on the road of independent progress. We also expand collaboration with the developed capitalist countries, with all the states of the world, irrespective of social system, actively participating in the international division of labour.

We firmly ground Romania's entire foreign policy on the observance of the principles of fully equal rights, national independence and sovereignty, non-immixture in internal affairs and mutual advantage, non-recourse to threat or use of force, the assertion of each people's right to develop according to its will and aspirations--principles that are firming themselves ever more strongly on a world plane. The respect for each people's liberty and independence, for its sacred right to organize its life as it wishes, is in our days a sine qua non for the development of mankind on the road of progress, for safeguarding peace and that is why we must devote all our forces to this cause.

Romania tirelessly militates for building security and peace on the European Continent. The fact that the Belgrade conference ended with unsatisfactory results must be an alarm signal which should lead to the rallying of all peoples, of the progressive, democratic forces to the end of translating into life the documents signed in Helsinki, as a unitary whole, and especially of passing to military disengagement without which one cannot speak of security and peace. We are deeply concerned with the fact that there still are military confrontations among states on various meridians causing big damage and losses to peoples, that in certain regions of the globe menacing clouds are gathering that can bring new storms with unforeseeable consequences on general peace.

Starting from this situation, taking into account the fact that the long imperialist and colonialist domination has generated many anomalies and left unsolved many disputed issues we consider that the direct negotiations among the parties concerned [and] the renunciation of any armed confrontations are the only way of settling the disputes among states.

Starting from the fact that the perpetuation of the Middle East conflict can aggravate the situation in that region and in the whole world, Romania declares for its political settlement by Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967, by observing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination--by the setting up of its independent state included--by securing the independence, sovereignty and integrity of all the states in the area. [as received]

The liquidation of underdevelopment, which still affects a great part of mankind as a consequence of the imperialist and colonialist policy that led to the world's division into rich and poor countries, is an imperative of our epoch. Therefore, we act most energetically for building a new international economic order that should secure an equitable collaboration among nations, the access of the lagging countries to up-to-date science and technology, conditions for their faster economic and social progress.

Romania militates for the complete and definite liquidation of colonialism and neocolonialism, of every policy of domination and oppression of other peoples.

In this respect, we give our full support to the national liberation movements, to the fight of the peoples in Rhodesia and Namibia, in South Africa, against the racist policy and apartheid, for winning their right to free, independent development.

Mankind is vitally interested in the promotion of a policy of international peace and security. Therefore, it is necessary to do everything to pass to disarmament, to nuclear disarmament primarily. In this respect we consider that the present UN special session is of particular importance and we are resolved to make our full contribution so that it should mark a real progress on the road of disarmament.

The complex problems confronting mankind today can no longer be solved only by some states, they require the active participation in international life of all countries, especially of the small and medium-sized countries, of the developing countries, of the non-aligned countries, which represent the majority of the population of the globe and are vitally interested in promoting a new policy of equality and respect for the independence of each nation.

Setting out from the role and the ever growing influence the communist and workers' parties exert on the whole contemporary evolution, the Romanian Communist Party considers it necessary that action should be taken for the strengthening of their solidarity and collaboration, on the basis of equality and rigorous observance of each and every party's right to self-dependently elaborate its political line, revolutionary strategy and tactics, without any outside immixture, according to the concrete conditions in its country. We also strengthen solidarity and collaboration with the other organizations of the working class, with socialist and social-democratic parties, with the national liberation movements, with all progressive, anti-imperialist forces, we act for the rallying of all peoples' efforts in the struggle for peace and progress on our planet.

In conclusion, President Nicolae Ceausescu expressed his conviction that his Vietnamese visit would go down as a fresh important moment in the chronicle of the Romanian-Vietnamese friendship and solidarity give a new impetus to the cooperation between the two parties and peoples.

Official Talks End

AU251950Y Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1915 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] Hanoi, AGERPRES, 25/5/78--The official talks between Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, concluded on Thursday, May 25.

The two sides pointed out the satisfaction for the good relations established between the two parties, countries and peoples, as also to the fact that President Nicolae Ceausescu's new visit of friendship to Vietnam would intensify their collaboration in building socialism, especially economic exchanges and cooperation in technical, scientific and other domains.

Likewise, the wish of the two parties and countries was expressed to cooperate ever more actively on an international plane, in the service of strengthening the forces of socialism, the unity of the communist and working-class movement, of the national liberation movements, of all the democratic, progressive and anti-imperialist forces.

President Nicolae Ceausescu officially invited Le Duan to visit Romania again together with other members of the party and state leadership. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. The talks passed in a comradely atmosphere of warm friendship.

Cooperation Agreements Signed

AU251953Y Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1920 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Text] Hanoi, AGERPRES, 25/5/78--On May 25, 1978, Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, signed a declaration on continually strengthening friendship and solidarity, developing the collaboration between the Romanian Communist Party and the Communist Party of Vietnam, between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The signing ceremony took place at the presidential palace of Hanoi.

The same day, a series of documents on economic cooperation and cooperation in production between the governments of the Socialist Republic of Romania and of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam were signed at the Ministry of Foreign Trade in Hanoi, by Cornel Burtica, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation of Romania, and Dang Viet Chau, minister of foreign trade of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The documents envisage the building of a cement mill, cooperation in exploiting the Khe Cham anthracite deposit, opening of a quarry at Dong Ao, delivery of installations and equipment.

A protocol was also signed on goods exchanges and payments between the governments of the Socialist Republic of Romania and of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for 1979.

CEAUSESCU BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT TO LAOS

For Lao reportage on the visit of President Nicolae Ceausescu, see the Laos section of the 26 May and subsequent issues of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

IL 26 May 78

H 6

ROMANIA

PRESS REVIEWS ROMANIAN-LAO RELATIONS

AU251611Y Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1158 GMT 25 May 78 AU

["Romanian Press on Realities in Lao People's Democratic Republic"--AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 25/5/78--The Romanian press has inserted of late a greater number of coverages on the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Daily SCINTEIA of May 25 and the foreign affairs weekly LUMEA, in its latest issue, printed travel notes from Laos, emphasizing the renewing changes, the achievements recorded by the Lao people after the monarchy was overthrown and the Lao People's Democratic Republic proclaimed. The fact is stressed that the country concomitantly inaugurated a qualitatively new stage of development on the road of progress. Everywhere, SCINTEIA writes, you can see that the Lao people, engrossed in the work of national reconstruction, focusses its forces on building a new life, a peaceful, united and prosperous Laos. In its turn, weekly LUMEA stresses that although socialist construction in the friendly country is only at the beginning, employing specific modalities in solving the questions of the country's development and committing the whole people to the work of reconstruction, successes have been recorded which are of great import on the road of economic progress, of social transformations.

Although separated by distances, LUMEA stresses, Romania and Laos developed and consolidated strong links of friendship, collaboration and solidarity. Acting in the spirit of its policy of solidarity with all peoples fighting for freedom, independence and social progress, Romania has granted multilateral support to the Lao people along the whole period of fight against foreign intervention, for national freedom and unity, for self-dependent development. The relations between the two countries recorded fresh progress with the extinction of the Lao conflict and especially after the proclamation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The official visit of friendship paid to Romania by Kaysone Phomvihane, the talks conducted with Nicolae Ceausescu, the measures and decisions adopted on the occasion, opened up new vistas to the relations between the two countries, fresh possibilities for strengthening the fraternal friendship between the Romanian people and the Lao people, for expanded collaboration between the two parties and states. The papers stress that the official visit of friendship, by a party and state delegation of Romania, headed by Nicolae Ceausescu, is to (?take place) soon to Laos, will open up a new stage in the evolution of the Romanian-Lao relations, further dynamizing the course of the good relations between the two parties, countries and peoples. Bucharest daily SCINTEIA TINERETULUI carries an interview by (Somsanith Khanbay), vice-chairman of the Organization of Revolutionary Popular Youth of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, pointing to the current concerns of the people and youth for building a new Laos, the major directions of international activity of the youth organization in that country.

PRESS COMMENTS ON CEASESCU'S KOREAN VISIT

AU251549Y Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1210 GMT 25 May 78 AU

["Romanian Press Comments on President Nicolae Ceausescu's Visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea"--AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 25/5/78--An event of special importance for the continuous development and strengthening of the brotherly friendship and collaboration of the revolutionary solidarity between the parties, the governments and the peoples of the Socialist Republic of Romania and of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, an important contribution to strengthening the unity of the socialist countries, that of the international working class and communist movement, this is the commentary of the Romanian daily SCINTEIA of May 25, on the official visit of President Nicolae Ceausescu to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Quoting several lines from the "Song of the Romanian-Korean Friendship", the Bucharest newspaper best illustrates the strength of the Romanian-Korean relations of friendship and solidarity, the fact that in spite of distance, the Romanian and Korean peoples felt and feel very close to each other.

The top level meetings of Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Kim Il-sung in Pyongyang and Bucharest in 1971 and (?1978) respectively, had a special importance for the development of the bilateral relations. The relations between the two countries enjoyed a very fertile framework, having a strong firm base in the friendship and collaboration treaty between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, notes the Romanian paper, adding:

Starting from such premises, the official talks between Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Kim Il-sung made clear the conclusion that there are new possibilities for a substantial intensification of the bilateral relations, to the benefit of both peoples, of their prosperity and welfare. This has become material, right during the visit, by the conclusion of certain important documents, outstanding being the common declaration, sanctioning the wish to mark a new stage of development in the mutual relations in all domains of the political, social, economic and cultural life, notes the daily. The declaration also has a valuable international significance, and may be considered [an] important common contribution to the democratisation of the interstate relations, to building a juster and better world.

As a matter of fact, it should be stressed that the principles and provisions of the declaration already have got material during the visit. In full harmony with the spirit and letter of the joint declaration, the signing of the protocol on goods exchanges and payments in 1979 and of the agreement on collaboration in tourism, accord within the joint determination to intensify the multilateral Romanian-Korean collaboration. Undoubtedly, the translation into life of the declaration provisions, the carrying through of the understandings reached, will contribute to the faster progress of socialist construction in both countries, in the interest of our people, of the affirmation of the cause of socialism.

The role as a motive force and the most important contribution have come to the fore once more during the visit, of the relations of comradely solidarity between the R.C.P., and the W.P.K. [Workers' Party of Korea], for the expansion and deepening of the friendly collaboration between our countries and peoples.

The present visit of President Nicolae Ceausescu to D.P.R. of Korea occasioned a strong affirmation of the solidarity of the Romanian people with the just struggle of the Korean people for peaceful and independent unification of the country. Romania firmly, resolutely, constantly and actively supports the constructive initiatives of President Kim Il-sung to carry out this fully legitimate aspiration of the Korean nation. As it was stressed on this occasion, too, Romania declares resolutely against any action of the South-Korean imperialists and authorities aiming to creating two Koreas and to the perpetuation of the country's sectioning, declares for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops and mass destruction weapons, nuclear bombs included, from South-Korea, in order to change the armistice agreement into a peace agreement, and is decided to continue to militate internationally for the materialization of the D.P.R. of Korea's proposals of peaceful reunification of the country, for the observance of the sacred right of the Korean people to decide by itself over its destiny.

[Words indistinct] collaboration between the two states, the visit allowed the reaffirmation of the identity of points of view of the two states on the fundamental matters of the international life, and on the necessity to (?strive for) them according to the aspirations of all peoples.

Pointing to the fact that in spite of the positive phenomena scored in international life, the process of revolutionary transformation of the world is not even, that the manifestations of the imperialist policy of force and domination are intensifying as well as the tendencies of redividing the world into spheres of influence and the attempts to subjugate the peoples having become independent--the talks highlighted the necessity (?to intensify) the vigilance and combativity of the peoples and of all revolutionary, antiimperialist and democratic forces all around the world.

Taking into account the fact that an ever more important role is held in solving the complex problems of the international life by the communist and workers' parties, notes the newspaper, the R.C.P. and the Workers' Party of Korea reasserted (?their) decision to act firmly in the future, too, for accomplishing the unity of all communist parties on the basis of the Marxist-Leninist principles of international solidarity, equal rights, mutual esteem and respect, the strict observance of each party's right to decide self-dependently on its political line, its revolutionary tactics and strategy, without any interference from abroad, according to the actual conditions in which it develops its activity. Strengthening the solidarity with the communist and workers' parties, the two parties manifested their determination to develop friendship and cooperation relations with the socialist, social-democrat parties, with national liberation movements, with other democratic parties and organisations fighting for peace, security, democracy, understanding and collaboration among peoples.

The Bucharest daily concludes: The Romanian people followed the visit of President Nicolae Ceausescu to the D.P.R. of Korea and the talks with President Kim Il-song with deep satisfaction and interest, and warmly salute the very fruitful results of the new top-level dialogue, considering that this visit will open new fertile horizons to brotherly cooperation, will mark a new stage in the continuous development of the Romanian-Korean militant solidarity and friendship, to the common advantage, to the cause of socialism, progress, and peace.

The Bucharest dailies ROMANIA LIBERA and SCINTEIA TINERETULUI carry extensive commentaries on President Nicolae Ceausescu's visit to the D.P.R. of Korea, highlighting the profound meaning of this event.

ROMANIA LIBERA, the organ of the Socialist Unity Front, appreciates that the summit Romanian-Korean dialogue, the understandings and actions covenanted will decisively influence the development and diversification of the bilateral relations. Conducted under the token of esteem and friendship characteristic of the relations of solidarity and collaboration between Romania and the D.P.R. of Korea, the talks concluded with fruitful results for the smooth run of the bilateral relations.

SCINTEIA TINERETULUI, the daily of the Union of Communist Youth of Romania, stresses in its turn that by its whole unfolding, the official visit of friendship by President Nicolae Ceausescu to the D.P.R. of Korea, the sincere comradely dialogue, the identity of views on the questions discussed, account for a greatly important moment for the intensification and development onto a novel stage of the friendship and collaboration, for deepening the mutual understanding of the two parties, governments and peoples and contribute to strengthening the international communist and working-class movement. The whole Romanian people, the newspaper writes, the young generation of Socialist Romania greet with sincere joy and satisfaction the rich results of the visit--a moment of historic import in the evolution of the Romanian-Korean relations.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON TITO'S 86TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Hodza Congratulates Tito

LD251234Y Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0854 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Brioni--Congratulating President Tito in the Villa Brionka on his 86th birthday, Fadil Hodza, vice president of the SPRY Presidency, said the following on behalf of the president's closest associates and on his own behalf:

Dear Comrade Tito, I am happy to be able to congratulate you most cordially on your birthday on behalf of your closest associates.

The 25th of May is your birthday and a holiday for all of us. It is a date which is inseparable from your great work and the creativity of our working class, our national liberation struggle and the revolution and from socialist, nonaligned, self-managing Yugoslavia.

Comrade Tito, you have for over 60 years inspired our working class and all working people of Yugoslavia with revolutionary ideas.

Your sure hands have been on the helm of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia for over 40 years.

Comrade Tito, under your leadership and the leadership of our glorious party, our working class, from which you originated, and all our nations and nationalities won their freedom and successfully carried out the revolution and for more than 30 years have unwaveringly and successfully been marching along the road of the building of self-managing socialism.

In the course of this freedomloving endeavor we have withstood numerous hardships and even blackmail and violent attacks and we have remained our own and that is what we shall always remain.

When many doubted man, especially the working man, Yugoslavia decided to place all its present reality and its future in the hands of the working people.

Yugoslavia has never been more monolithic and stable than today.

We have achieved and we have the most rapid and dynamic growth. Building work goes on everywhere, life is better everywhere.

The brotherhood and unity of our nations and nationalities has never been stronger than it is today. The same applies to the belief in socialism. We are striving for a true humanism of society and man.

We have a very clear prospect. We know what we want to do and where our road is taking us. There is no force that can divert us from this road.

Comrade Tito, you have always looked far ahead. You always have been and remain a great visionary and you have always found the right answers to the questions posed by history. Comrade Tito, everything you and our party initiated stemmed from the hearts of our working people and our nations and nationalities, because it was based on the true social needs and aspirations. This is why millions have taken the road of your great revolutionary work.

Our youth, which adopted 25 May as its holiday, is in the front ranks of this irresistible march. As a sign of gratitude for all that you have done and are doing, Comrade Tito, our youth is sending you its best wishes in the relay baton carried in the hands of thousands and thousands of young women and men from all the parts of our socialist community.

We are aware that our revolution is not over. Also, there have been and there will be problems, shortcomings and omissions, but thanks to the high degree of awareness of our working class, the cohesion and the complete ideological unity and unity of action of the LCY and thanks to all that we have already achieved I am sure in the coming years our progress will be still more rapid.

All that has been achieved, all that we have and all that we represent today fills us with pride, but also spurs us on to be even more persistent, more consistent and bolder on our revolutionary road. Fresh efforts and endeavours are needed in the building of socialism, in the advancement and enrichment of self-management, in the settling of economic problems, in the promoting of all social activities. We must work still harder on raising the standard of living.

There is no doubt that the 11th Congress of the LCY will give a powerful impetus and represent a signpost in this direction.

Our dear Comrade Tito, your name has crossed our country's borders and become the symbol of the progressive aspirations of the oppressed peoples, class and man. Yugoslavia is proud and feels itself privileged to have Tito.

Comrade Tito, you have several times stressed your satisfaction at the fact that we have such a party as the LCY and such a working class as ours.

While building our new, self-managing Socialist Yugoslavia on the firm foundations provided by our own history and on the basis of our own needs, you have at the same time also projected a new vision of the world and concept of socialism and enriched socialist thought and practice.

The principles of active peaceful coexistence, differences in the ways of building socialism, equality, respect for sovereignty and noninterference are today widely endorsed and have proved themselves. Socialism has truly become a world process and the future of mankind.

The policy of nonalignment, which you initiated, Comrade Tito, has become an irreplaceable and generally accepted motive force on the road of peace and international cooperation. In it a whole world has found the road to its better life and to more equitable international relations.

Tito, the consistent and bold fighter for freedom, peace and international cooperation, is known in every corner of the earth. Through his achievement Tito has truly become a citizen of the world.

Yugoslavia, as it is today, is the source of pride to every one of its citizens.

Dear Comrade Tito, comrades, I am convinced that by saying this I am expressing the deepest feeling not only of all of you here, but also of the whole of our working class and all our working people and citizens, all the nations and nationalities of Yugoslavia and of many known and unknown people throughout the world.

Comrade Tito, I wish you a happy birthday and to be for a long, long time at the head of our courageous march to new victories!

Tito Replies to Hodza

AU251430Y Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1140 GMT 25 May 78 AU

[Statement by President of the Republic Josip Broz Tito in reply to birthday congratulations by Fadil Hodza, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, at Brioni on 25 May--live]

[Text] Comrades: Allow me first of all to express my gratitude for these words uttered here by the vice president. On this occasion I would like to express my deepest [Tito repeats himself] deepest gratitude for all that you have arranged for me here today. I have received congratulations from many sides. Now the relay race, too, will soon arrive here. These congratulations express the views and wishes of millions of our people. This has been like this already for several years, for a number of years it has been like this. What does this mean? This means that newer and newer generations, our younger generations, are joining those ranks which we have long since traced [as heard] through which we have passed and are accepting the ideas which we have implemented both during the war and after the war. We have a sure future when we have younger generations of this kind; younger generations which have proven themselves to be worthy sons of their people. We have a sure future because this, our younger generation more and more is absorbing [our ideas] and is increasingly moving en masse along the same road we have traversed and is increasingly en masse accepting the ideas which we hold. This is an indication that our country will have a great future with these new younger generations which are growing in our country. [applause]

I wish on this occasion also to thank my comrades, my collaborators who have traversed this difficult and thorny road and who today can be happy when they see the results which we have achieved. These results are enormous. Yugoslavia has won enormous prestige in the world. Today Yugoslavia is a concept and not only a small country, a concept of the courage of this people, of the confidence of this people in itself and so forth. I thank you all, my dear comrades, both these old collaborators of mine and all of you present here today. Thank you. [applause]

Greetings From Relay Race

AU251651Y [Editorial Report AU] Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1100 GMT on 25 May, together with Zagreb, Ljubljana, Sarajevo, Skopje, Titograd, Novi Sad and Pristina radio stations, carries a live relay of the arrival of the youth relay race at Brioni and the presentation of birthday greetings to President of the Republic Josip Broz Tito.

The first part of the relay from 1100 to 1108 is carried from Fazana. Zagreb radio correspondent Asim Cabaraldic describes the scene at the Fazana port and reports that the youth relay race runners have already left for Brioni aboard the torpedo boat Napredak, accompanied by two patrol and two militia boats.

The second part of relay begins at 1121 GMT and is carried from Istra Quay on Brioni Island. The youth relay race runners are reported to land at the Istra Quay at 1123. The announcer describes the scene noting that schoolchildren from Pula and representatives of many organizations are on hand to cheer the relay race runners as they leave the quay on their way to Villa Brionka to present the relay baton with birthday greetings to President Tito.

At 1132 the relay is carried from the Villa Brionka. An unidentified announcer reports that "Comrade Tito has just arrived there," accompanied by Edvard Kardelj. "The highest state and party leaders present" are reported to greet Tito with applause when he entered the large reception hall of the Villa Brionka.

Fadil Hodza, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, addresses Tito at 1134, congratulating him on his birthday on behalf of his "closest collaborators."

President Tito thanks Hodza and others for their congratulations and best wishes.

At 1144 GMT President Tito is reported to come out of the villa to an "improvised stand" in front of the villa. He is accompanied by the highest state and party leaders. Azem Vlas, president of the Federation of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia, is reported to stand by President Tito. Cede Djordjeviski, student and worker from Macedonia, presents the relay race baton to President Tito at 1145 and in a brief address in Macedonian wishes him a happy birthday.

Thanking the student for his greetings, Tito says: "Comrades: I thank the bearers of the relay baton, the young people and Pioneers, who have carried the words addressed to me by our peoples and nationalities. On this occasion I wish to say that I am deeply moved because in your words you have expressed everything which is also deeply implanted in my heart. The congratulations this year to me are deeply connected with expressions of gratitude to all of you who have done this. For me they also simultaneously represent an obligation which I will fulfill to the best of my ability for the benefit of our socialist community and for a brighter future for the present and future generations. I wish the young people and Pioneers that their [years of] youth be cheerful and joyful and their future happy and filled with creative work for the greatness of our socialist community. Thank you for this gift."

Tito's statement is greeted with applause. Following this brief ceremony Tito is reported returning to the great reception hall in Villa Brionka.

The announcer reports that among those present at the Villa Brionka are members of the SFRY Presidency led by Vice President Fadil Hodza, member of the Executive Committee of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; and unnamed representatives of the SFRY Assembly, the Federal Executive Council and of the republics and provinces; presidents of the presidencies of the republics and provinces and of the republican central committees and conferences; representatives of the SAWPY, the federation of trade unions, the veterans' organization and the Federation of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia; representatives of the Yugoslav People's Army and many other officials, guests and representatives.

At 1150 Tito is reported sitting with his associates in a brief conversation before the luncheon to be attended by all those present at the Brioni celebration. The relay ends at 1155 GMT.

Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1900 GMT on 25 May, together with Zagreb, Sarajevo, Novi Sad and Titograd radio stations, carries a relay of the final event of youth day at the Belgrade stadium of the Yugoslav Army. At the beginning of the relay the announcer reports that present at the stadium are Fadil Hodza [as heard], Dragoslav Markovic, Stane Dolanc, Azem Vlas, Petar Stambolic, Stevan Doronjski, Iazar Kolisevski, Nikola Ljubcic, Franjo Herljevic and other prominent party and state leaders of the federation, the republics and the provinces as well as Zivcrad Kovacevic, president of the Belgrade City Assembly.

Greetings From World Leaders

LD252100Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 1903 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, May 25 (TANJUG)--A great number of telegrams of felicitations and best wishes was received also today by Josip Broz Tito, president of Yugoslavia and of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, on the occasion of his 86th birthday from statesmen and prominent leaders world-wide, such as:

Gustav Husak, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and president of the Czechoslovak Republic.
Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania;
Giovanni Leone, president of the Italian Republic;
Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, president of India;
Morarj Desai, premier of India;
Habib Bourguiba, president of Tunisia;
Santiago Carrillo, secretary general of the Communist Party of Spain;
Houari Boumediene, president of Algeria;
Agostinho Neto, president of the MPLA Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola;
Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, president of Iraq;
Suharto, president of Indonesia;
Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan;
Bruno Kreisky, federal chancellor of Austria;
Carl Gustaf, king of Sweden;
Juan Carlos, king of Spain;
Husayn, king of Jordan;
Demetrio Lakas, president of Panama; and
Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany.

In their telegrams, Nicolae Ceausescu emphasizes good relations between the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and the Romanian Communist Party which develop in the spirit of respect, mutual confidence and understanding. Houari Boumediene points out that Yugoslavia and Algeria are inspired with the same ideals and guided by the principles of nonalignment. And Santiago Carrillo expresses gratitude for the solidarity affirmed by the LCY and Tito personally with the Communist Party of Spain for many years now.

Syrian President's Message

JN260945Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 26 May 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a congratulatory cable to Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito on his 86th birthday. In the cable President al-Asad expressed his sincerest congratulations and best wishes for happiness and a long life for the Yugoslav president, and also expressed his great appreciation for the support which Yugoslavia, under Tito, is giving to the just Arab cause.

TANJUG REPORTS ON DJURANOVIC'S ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK

Meeting With Vance

LD251810Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 1720 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] United Nations, May 25 (TANJUG)--Veselin Djuranovic, president of Yugoslavia's Federal Executive Council and premier, had a one-hour talk with Cyrus Vance, the U.S. secretary of state, here today in which the positive development of friendly relations and cooperation between Yugoslavia and the U.S. was asserted, and the significance of President Tito's visit to the U.S. recently and of his talks with President Carter was particularly underlined.

Djuranovic and Vance also considered certain international issues, such as the situation in the Middle East, events in the south and Horn of Africa and Zimbabwe, and the nonaligned countries' present and forthcoming activities.

In the talk took part Yugoslav Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Josip Vrhovec, Ambassador Dimce Belovski in Washington, permanent representative to the U.N. Ambassador Jaksa Petric and Yugoslav premier's adviser for foreign-policy affairs Nikola Cicanovic for Yugoslavia, and U.S. veteran diplomat Averell Harriman, Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs George West and European department head Nicholas Andrews for the U.S.

David Rockefeller Hosts Dinner

LD291943Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 1756 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Text] United Nations, May 25 (TANJUG)--President of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council (government) Veselin Djuranovic and Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Josip Vrhovec were guests of honour at a dinner in New York last night given by chairman of the board of the Chase Manhattan Bank David Rockefeller. The guests included most prominent representatives of the U.S. business world and companies maintaining business ties with Yugoslavia.

The possibilities for further development of comprehensive economic cooperation between the two countries in the field of not only trade, but also joint ventures, financial cooperation and other higher, more up-to-date forms of cooperation were appraised as favourable.

Djuranovic informed American businessmen about the economic trends in Yugoslavia, especially the measures being taken to promote its trade and economic cooperation with other countries.

Interest was found to exist among major U.S. firms in the establishment of mutually beneficial business cooperation with partners in Yugoslavia. Expected to be rather conducive to this end is a forthcoming meeting in Dubrovnik of the two countries' economic and trade representatives to give detailed consideration to a number of questions and examine the possibilities for establishing even closer contacts and cooperation.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH HUNGARY--On 6 June the Prahovo factory of chemical products will commission three new production plants which will annually produce 500,000 tons of sulfuric acid, 180,000 tons of phosphoric acid and 130,000 tons of mono-ammonium phosphate, respectively. The three plants have been built within the third stage of the Prahovo factory's development plan for which Hungary has invested \$15 million. Under a 15-year cooperation agreement the Prahovo factory will annually deliver 100,000 tons of mono-ammonium phosphate and 100,000 tons of (?sulfur) phosphate to the Hungarian chemical industry. At the same time the factory will buy from Hungary nitrogen components for production of mineral fertilizers. [Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 23 May 78 AU]

AMBASSADOR TO PRC APPOINTED--Belgrade--Mirko Ostojic, assistant federal secretary for foreign affairs, has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SFRY to the People's Republic of China. Born in Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1925, he joined the national liberation struggle in 1971 and after the war became a journalist and was chief editor of the Sarajevo daily OSLOBODJENJE and later federal secretary for information, ambassador to Libya, ambassador to Brazil and assistant federal secretary for foreign affairs. [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1112 GMT 19 May 78 LD]

CONGOLESE MESSAGE FOR TITO--Belgrade, May 19 (TANJUG)--Undersecretary in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs Budimir Loncar received Marten Adok, the special envoy of Congo's President Col. Joachim Yhombi-Opango. Marten Adok presented to Loncar a message for President Tito from the Congolese president. The message is related to the expansion of cooperation between the two friendly and non-aligned countries. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG in English 1327 GMT 19 May 78 LD]

MONTENEGRIN PRESIDENCY COUNCIL CHAIRMEN--Titograd--At its session held today under Veljko Milatovic's chairmanship, the presidency of the Socialist Republic of Montenegro formed its working bodies and elected the chairmen of councils and commissions. Veljko Milatovic was elected chairman of the Council for National Defense. Jovan Vujadinovic was elected chairman of the Republican Council for the Protection of the Constitutional Order, and Sulejman Redzepagic, chairman of the Republican Council for Relations With Other Countries. [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1132 GMT 19 May 78 LD]

LJUBLJANA AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS--In July and August the Ljubljana airport in Brnik near Kranj will be closed to traffic because of reconstruction: the Slovenija Cesta enterprise will widen the airport's runway from 45 to 65 meters and extend it from the present 3,000 to 3,300 meters. The old concrete pavements will be covered with an additional 20-centimeter concrete and asphalt layer. At the same time the airport will install a new lighting navigation system which will make landing possible under conditions of horizontal visibility range of 30 meters and of vertical visibility range of 300 meters. Beginning on 1 September the Ljubljana Airport will be able to accept heavy intercontinental flights. During July and August the airport traffic will be diverted to Maribor and Zagreb. By 4 July the Slovenija Cesta enterprise will build a 1,500-meter runway in Slovenjgradec for 50-seat planes and by the end of 1978 an 800-meter runway for sport planes in Portoroz. [Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 23 May AU]

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

DAILY REPORT volumes are published Monday through Friday in both paper version (mailed daily) and microfiche version (mailed weekly). The annual subscription fee for the paper version within the United States, Canada, and Mexico is \$150 for any one volume and \$50 for each additional volume. This includes occasional supplements. In microfiche the fee is \$100 for any one volume, \$125 for two volumes, \$150 for three, \$200 for four, \$250 for five, \$300 for six, \$350 for seven, and \$400 for all eight volumes. Foreign subscriptions outside North America are available from appointed foreign dealers or from NTIS. For information contact NTIS. U.S. government officials may obtain subscriptions at no charge directly from FBIS. Phone 527-2368 (area code 703) or write P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013.

The volumes are: I - People's Republic of China; II - Eastern Europe; III - Soviet Union; IV - Asia & Pacific; V - Middle East & North Africa; VI - Latin America; VII - Western Europe; VIII - Sub-Saharan Africa. Back issues or single copies are not available. Allow 30 days for processing new subscriptions. Mail remittances, inquiries, and address changes to the NTIS address below.

Note: The publications of the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS), which are sometimes cited in the DAILY REPORT, can also be ordered from NTIS in single copies or by subscription. In ordering, please cite the JPRS title, number, date and author if applicable.

Both the DAILY REPORT and JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at public and university libraries throughout the United States.

NTIS

National Technical Information Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Springfield, Virginia 22151